

Strangeways rebels hold out

War of words over staffing at riot prison

By Quentin Cowdry, Peter Davenport, Ronald Faux and Richard Ford

MANY parts of Strangeways Prison in Manchester remained in the hands of rioting inmates yesterday evening, 36 hours after the disorder began, as a fierce dispute erupted over the cause of the trouble.

While prison officers and some opposition MPs accused the Home Office of leaving jails dangerously short of staff, Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, told the Commons that the possibility of fatalities could not be ruled out. Within minutes, however, prisoners unfurled a banner from a window saying "No dead".

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, said that while the incident continued, political bickering about staffing should be set aside. Responding to criticism about staffing levels, Mr Mellor said he did not propose to get involved in this. He said, however, that Strangeways was staffed to within three of its complement of 431 officers.

The Government was carrying forward a programme to construct 24 new prisons, bringing 10,000 places. This has been the most major improvement in prison conditions this century, he said. Earlier, the Prison Officers' Association had claimed that the immediate cause of the riot, the worst in a British prison for 100 years, was staff shortages. In addition, officers

had specifically warned the governor a few weeks ago that a riot was imminent.

The union, which claims that the service is about 1,000 officers short overall, says that the 1,625 inmates at Strangeways were being supervised by just 120 warders on Sunday morning when the riot began.

Mr Waddington told a silent Commons that most of the violence had been between inmates. He declined to comment on the theory that rioters had singled out sexual offenders and other inmates being held in segregation.

Emergency service workers said that a number of bodies had been seen in the segregation wing. Twenty body-bags were delivered to the prison yesterday morning.

Some 24 prisoners are still in hospital, one with serious head injuries and one with a punctured lung, but none were said to be in danger. A total of 1,458 inmates have been transferred to other jails.

As darkness fell, about 20 prisoners prepared to spend their second night on the roof of the Victorian jail watched by the scores of police ringing the establishment. Riot squads remained on stand-by.

Launching a strong defence of the Government's penal policy and promising a thorough inquiry into the riot, Mr Waddington described the events in the prison as a "terrible incident". The general picture is of prisoners indulging in violence on other prisoners.

It had not been possible to confirm widespread but conflicting stories about the violence and claims that a number of prisoners were dead. Mr Waddington said, however, that nine surrendering prisoners claimed to have been forcibly injected with drugs, and eight admitted to taking them voluntarily.

Twelve prison officers had been injured and were taken to hospital, he said. "My latest information is that some 119 prisoners have yet to surrender, while 69 prisoners remain in the hospital and other parts of the prison, safe and under control".

Praising the bravery of the prison officers, Mr Waddington said that the violence had begun when prisoners attending chapel attacked the 10 staff members present and took keys from them.

He said he had no knowledge of any warning given to prison staff of expected trouble.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary, said the Home Office had failed "hopelessly" in its management of the prison and "neglected its duty to prepare for disturbances". Prisoners were allowed one shower a week and sometimes not even that.

"If you treat men like animals we ought not to be surprised if they behave like animals," Mr Hattersley said. He added: "The recurring crises in our prisons are the results of the overcrowding which comes from too many custodial sentences and too little community punishment."

"The failures and the disorders are a direct result and the direct responsibility... of the Home Secretary and his inadequate policies for staffing our prisons and improving conditions within them."

Mr John Bartlett, the POA's chairman, said: "We are no longer prepared to see our prisons overcrowded whilst some are half empty with 'efficiencies', further jobs taken away from prison officers and given to civilians and with the Treasury refusing to resource us properly. This riot highlights that our staff, if not the public, are at risk."

Yesterday evening half of the 10 wings in the 120-year-old prison, nine accommodation blocks and a hospital unit, were still in the hands of prisoners. The Home Office said that until authorities had regained the entire complex it would be impossible to confirm reports of deaths.

These numbers swung wildly between three and 20 yesterday and concentrated on feared victims among sex offenders housed in a wing which has still to be taken back by the authorities.

It was revealed yesterday that during the riot some prisoners ransacked the prison medical wing stealing dangerous drugs which some of them then swallowed. Damage is so severe that the prison may not reopen. Large areas of roof have been stripped, there are big holes in the structure and court yards, are littered with debris.

"Warnings ignored", page 3
"Right to disobey", page 14
"Leading article", page 15



Prepared for confrontation: A policeman in anti-riot gear at Strangeways yesterday

King aiming for smaller British defence forces

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE Cabinet is to receive an interim report in the autumn by Ministry of Defence staff on the options for reshaping Britain's armed forces.

The report which is not due to be made public, will be delivered soon after the signing of the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty, expected in November. Ministry of Defence sources said the interim report would be a "stock-taking" of the comprehensive study now under way. It would take into account the implications of the CFE Treaty on Britain's armed services.

Although the Government intends to keep the report confidential, it is possible that Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Defence, may make a statement on the likely way ahead for the Services before the end of the year.

Yesterday Mr King, presenting his annual Defence White Paper, emphasized that the aim of the internal study

was to produce "smaller, not small", armed forces.

He also wanted to ensure that if the future changes resulted in economic savings, there should be a "service dividend", not just a peace dividend. This would mean the best equipment and better accommodation and conditions for servicemen.

The "options for change" investigation by the Defence Staff and the Office of Management and Budget in the MoD is to be extended to seek the views of individual Service establishments.

In the Defence White Paper, Mr King says that whatever changes there might be in the future, the "basic elements" would remain. They included "the continuing value of a British contribution in Germany." In a signed introduction, he says: "The Government is doing a great deal of work in preparation for future decisions... on the adjustments that might best be

made as the new environment becomes clearer. At the same time we remain committed to maintaining adequate forces to meet our own varied security requirements."

He adds: "Our defence is an insurance policy, to make sure we are still covered even if things go wrong. We all have great hopes for the future but these hopes are not yet certain."

In the new financial year, the defence budget is going to face one of the tightest squeezes for a long time. Expenditure will drop by 3 per cent in real terms. This is partly due to higher inflation, but also because spending was 1.5 per cent higher than expected in 1989/90. However the budget will rise in the following two years to reach a level of expenditure comparable to 1988-89.

Full report, page 8
A new Europe, page 14
Leading article, page 15

Township crackdown by de Klerk

By Our Foreign Staff

PRESIDENT de Klerk yesterday pledged to bring South Africa's strife-torn townships under control by drafting in additional police and troops to stamp out violence.

In a toughly-worded address to Parliament in Cape Town he also warned that the crackdown could lead to a rise in the number of detainees.

The move was quickly

criticized by the ANC and affiliated organizations, which have demanded the withdrawal of the security forces from the townships as a precondition to negotiations with the Government.

However, President de Klerk held out the prospect of some progress in dialogue with the black opposition when he confirmed that he

would be holding preliminary talks on Thursday with Mr Nelson Mandela, Vice-President of the ANC. Mr Mandela arrived yesterday in Natal to visit the townships around Pietermaritzburg, the scene of bloody clashes between his supporters and the Zulu movement, Inkatha.

Troops sent in, page 24

Waddington in attack on Labour poll tax rebels

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

A BITTER inter-party dispute broke out at Westminster last night after Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, reporting to MPs on the London poll tax riot, accused Labour MPs of inciting people to break the law.

Mr Waddington announced two inquiries into what he called some of the most ferocious violence ever seen on the streets of London.

A team of 100 police officers has been set up to undertake a "major criminal investigation." And Sir Peter Imbert, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, is to compile a full report on the day's events, reviewing the lessons to be learnt.

But the Labour Party reacted with outrage last night over what they saw as a blatant attempt by the Government to make political

capital from the riot. It accused Mr Waddington of "mindless mud-slinging" and "fomenting disturbances" in the Commons with his attacks on those Labour MPs refusing to pay the charge. A Labour spokesman said he was attempting to smear the entire Labour Party "by associating us, through his remarks... with the violent scenes people have seen on their television sets."

Mr Waddington's statement produced some of the most genuinely angry exchanges between the two main parties in the Commons for some time.

Mr Waddington, in his prepared statement to the House, made no reference to Labour's position as he condemned unreservedly the "disgraceful criminal behaviour which occurred". Some of the acts had been savage and barbaric.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary, condemned "without reservation or qualification" the rioting.

The House's mood changed when Mr Waddington was questioned by Tory backbenchers about the Labour MPs backing the non-payment campaign. The Home Secretary replied that it did not help when MPs exhorted people to break the law. "Do they really expect those they seek to influence to draw a neat distinction between one sort of law-breaking and another?"

Any MP who exhorted people to break the law should be "thoroughly ashamed."

Then he turned on Mr Neil Kinnock: "He has in his ranks on those benches 30 MPs who have been encouraging people to break the law. He should grow up and behave like a responsible citizen."

Mr Waddington's bruising performance delighted Conservative MPs, who cheered him loudly. Several said later he had raised Tory morale after a bad few weeks.

Yesterday it was confirmed that leaders of the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation had asked the police at the beginning of last week whether they could switch the rally venue from Trafalgar Square to Hyde Park. The police said the group would have to get the Department of the Environment's permission, but that it would be too late to do so because at least seven days notice was required.

Riot bill, page 6
Right to disobey, page 14
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Israel the target, page 12

Poll tax riot hits shares

London dealers reacted yesterday to a steep overnight fall on Japanese stock markets and the poll tax riots.

The FT-SE 100 share index lost 26.3 points to close at 2,251.6 in London, and the pound slipped 0.5 points on its trade-weighted index to \$7.4.

It was helped, however, by retail sales and consumer credit figures for February supporting evidence that the Government's high interest-rate policy was beginning to contain consumer demand.

In Tokyo, the Nikkei index had lost 1978.38 points to close at 28,002.07, its second-worst one-day fall. Page 25

Student losses

The number of medical students wishing to train as general practitioners has dropped significantly over uncertainty about the contract system which came into effect last Sunday, the Labour party spokesman on health matters, Mr Robin Cook, claimed yesterday. Page 2

Trade war fears

French officials fear that the US decision to bar imports of wine from France and Italy containing a widely used, Japanese-made fungicide may be the first salvo in a trade war with Europe. Page 12

Kohl retreats

After criticism from Christian Democrats in the two Germanies, Chancellor Kohl has hinted he will not support the Bundesbank's call for a two-to-one exchange rate between the Deutschmark and the East German mark. Page 13

BBC man dies

The private funeral of Peter Jones, the BBC Radio sports commentator who died in hospital yesterday after collapsing at the Boat Race on Saturday, will be held on Thursday. Obituary, page 16

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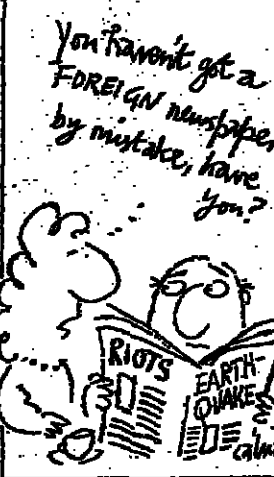
20-second quake hits Wales and Midlands

LARGE areas of Britain were shaken yesterday by the second biggest earthquake to hit the UK in 100 years.

The 20-second tremor, which centred on Wrexham, Clwyd, North Wales, was recorded at 2.46pm by the seismic research group of the British Geological Survey in Edinburgh, and measured 5.2 on the Richter scale.

Lifts jammed, streets were closed and buildings were evacuated across North Wales, the Black Country, Birmingham and the West Midlands. There were no reports of injuries.

Second biggest quake, page 3



Mayor 'rescues' bags of Chagalls for Israel

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

MR TEDDY Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem for 25 years, has never fought shy of dramatic gestures for the causes he loves, Jerusalem and Israel's heritage.

Yesterday the Israel Museum, which Mr Kollek founded, disclosed that he had made an extraordinary effort to secure valuable drawings by Marc Chagall promised to Israel by Chagall's daughter, Ida, who lives in Paris.

Apparently afraid that the Chagall legacy - worth millions of dollars - might go elsewhere, Mr Kollek took five empty suitcases to Paris and returned last weekend with one Chagall painting and more than 100 drawings.

"I don't suppose Israeli Customs looked too closely at the Mayor's luggage," one official said.

Chagall never lived in Israel, but he

came from a family of devout Russian Jews in Vitebsk, and many of his paintings have Jewish themes.

In 1982, he donated 12 magnificent stained-glass windows to the synagogue at the Hadassah hospital in Jerusalem.

Mme Ida Chagall, daughter of the painter and his wife, Bella, contributed her father's works to the Israel Museum for an exhibition in 1969, and declared that the museum would receive a bequest. But, according to figures in the Israeli art world who have known her for some time, she is in poor health and Israeli officials feared that her will might be contested by family members.

Mr Kollek was alerted to the possible loss of the legacy by Mr Joe Borenbaum, who helped to found the Israel Museum and who introduced Chagall to Mr Kollek. Yesterday, Mr Kollek refused to discuss his trip to Paris, and Mr Martin Weyl, the director of the museum, said

talk of a tussle over the legacy was "press speculation".

But Mr Weyl confirmed that the Ida Chagall collection now in Jerusalem included 35 drawings by Chagall for a book by his wife entitled *Burning Lights*. The collection also includes a drawing of King David, several other drawings with biblical themes, sketches for tapestries which hang in the Knesset (Parliament), and a portrait of a Jewish author who died in Stalin's purges.

The bequest is to go on display at the museum in September.

PARIS: Mme Ida Chagall confirmed yesterday that Mr Kollek had visited her in Paris last week and that he had departed with one painting and a batch of drawings (Philip Jacobson writes).

According to Mme Chagall, the painting she handed over is entitled *The Circus*, which is dated 1975. She had pledged the works "a long time ago."



Mr Kollek: Refusing to discuss Paris mission

what's orange, got three legs and eats melons?

Contracts 'deter students wishing to train as GPs'

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

THE number of medical students wishing to train as GPs has dropped significantly due to uncertainty over the new contracts for GPs, the Labour Party said yesterday.

Mr Robin Cook, Labour health spokesman, said students had been reluctant to apply for GP trainee places because of the contracts, effective from last Sunday, which reward doctors who attract more patients and meet screening targets. Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, imposed the contract without the profession's agreement after 18 months of negotiations.

Launching Labour's alternative contract, Mr Cook said between 1988 and 1990 the number of applicants for places at Westminster had dropped from 90 to 19, at

West Suffolk from 200 to six and at Huntingdon from 100 to 13.

"Round the country there is a clear picture of reductions in applications which is very worrying," he said. "That is why we have put forward our alternative to let prospective GPs know that the next Labour government will work with the profession to secure the changes that we both believe are in the interests of the profession."

The British Medical Association said it had also received reports of falling applications. "There seems to be no apparent reason other than uncertainty over the GP contract," the BMA said.

Labour's outline contract, which is being circulated to the 33,000 GPs in Britain via local medical committees,

would repeal the Government's decision to increase GPs' salary in relation to their practice list size.

The move to increase capitation-based payments from 47 per cent to 60 per cent of total income had reversed the policy of successive governments over the past 20 years to encourage better patient care by reducing incentives to lengthen lists, said Mr Cook. "Longer patient lists mean less time with each patient," he said.

The change would discriminate against women doctors who had shorter lists on average because many wished to work part time. Women doctors were already reporting increased difficulty in getting jobs in general practice because partners wanted to take on someone who would maintain or increase existing revenue.

"We will seek urgent talks with the profession to reduce the capitation element in the contract below 50 per cent," Labour's document said.

Emphasizing that any revised contract would be negotiated by agreement with the medical profession, Mr Cook said Labour would also change the system of payments for reaching cervical cancer screening targets.

Under the contract in force GPs are paid in full for each cervical smear only when 70 per cent of all women between 25 and 64 have been screened. They get a third of the payment if they hit a lower target of 50 per cent and receive nothing if they fail to meet the lower target.

Mr Cook said there was strong evidence that the upper targets could not be met by many practices, particularly in areas of deprivation where women were less confident to come forward.

Labour would "restore a full incentive for screening to those GPs whose practice may encounter difficulty in reaching the upper target", the document said. Mr Cook said Labour might revert to payments on the actual numbers screened.

MPs move to limit abortion

By Sheila Gunn, Political Reporter

MPs opposed to abortion and human embryo research signalled their intention yesterday to dominate debates in the Commons on the Warnock legislation in order to further their campaign for tougher laws.

They are preparing amendments to the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill which would virtually repeal Sir David Steel's 1967 Abortion Act and ban all experiments on human embryos.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Leader of the House, has guaranteed debates after the Easter recess for the amendments in the Commons.

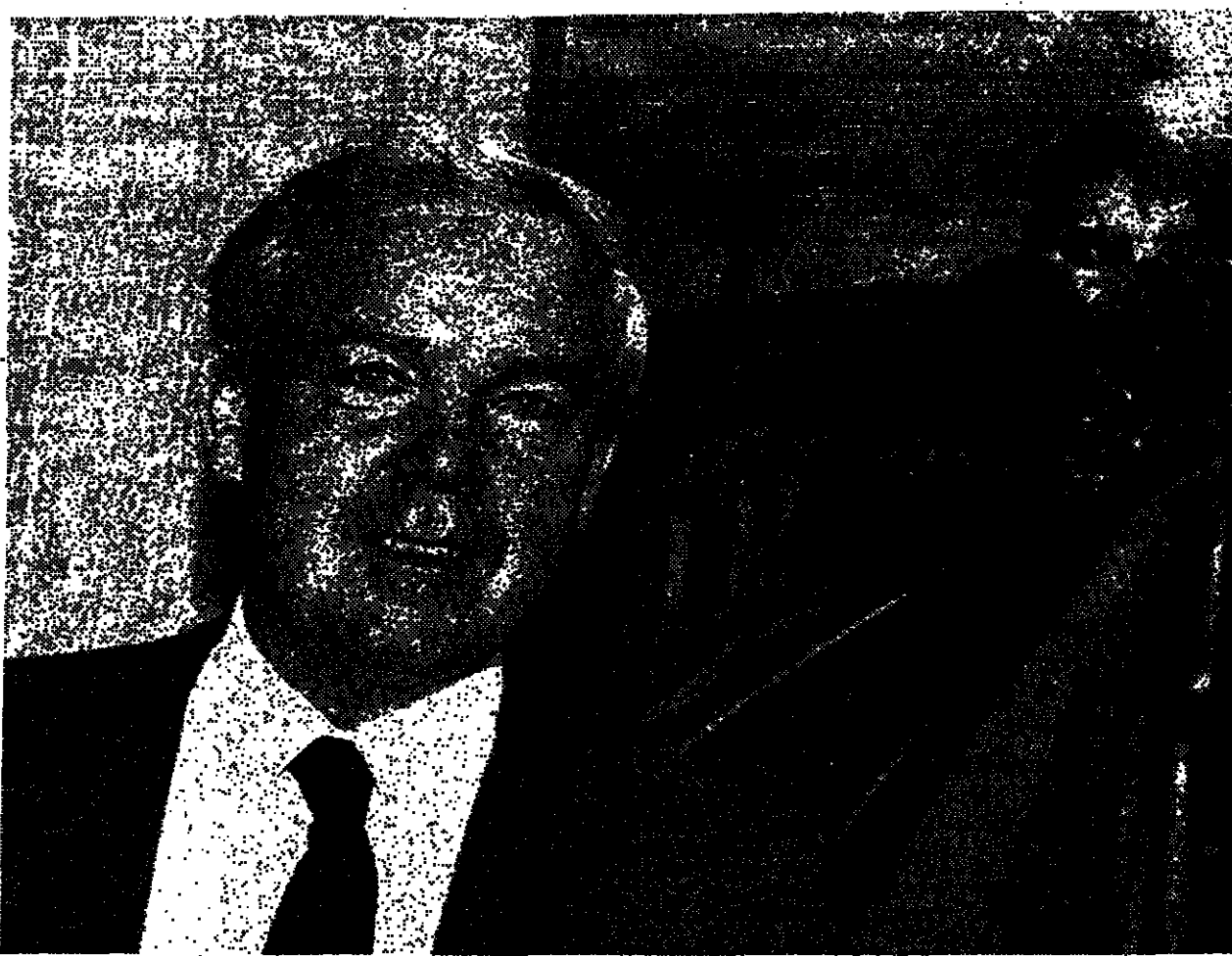
During the Bill's second reading debate yesterday Ms Jo Richardson, Labour's spokesman on women's issues, criticized Sir Geoffrey's decision to allow abortion amendments to be tabled to the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill, based on the Warnock report on human embryo research. She said that such issues of conscience

should be left to private Members legislation.

Early soundings by Conservative and Labour Whips indicate a possible consensus in the House for experiments on human embryos for up to 14 days under strict conditions. The House of Lords voted nearly three to one in favour of such research in February. The Whips also believe a majority in the Commons would back a cut in the time limit for abortions from 28 to 24 weeks to take account of the improved chances through medical advances of survival for very premature babies.

The anti-abortionist MPs are campaigning for stricter conditions on abortions as well as a deadline of 18 weeks as they regard the present law to provide abortion on demand. Lord Houghton of Sowerby's Bill, setting a 24-week deadline, is expected to be tabled as an amendment to the Warnock legislation with the Government's blessing.

BR chief arrives with a smile



Mr Bob Reid, British Rail's new chairman, on the first day at his new office yesterday at Euston in London. He said he hoped the railway would be "as strong at the end of the decade as it was at the beginning of the century".

Whitehall goes into business

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

NEARLY 300,000 civil servants should be working for free-standing executive agencies by the end of next year, the Government predicted yesterday as it announced a big expansion of its Next Steps programme aimed at making much of Whitehall more businesslike.

It also announced that the scheme to appoint chief executives, give them budgets, set performance and financial targets and pay them by results has been extended to new quangos and will eventually embrace some of the 1,500 such bodies that exist.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Civil Service, said that by the end of this week the number of agencies will have risen from 12 to 30 and the number of staff involved from 10,000 to 66,000.

The biggest new agency created yesterday with Mr

Michael Fogden as its chief executive was the 35,000-strong employment service.

Mr Michael Howard, the Secretary of State for Employment, said: "Very soon people will start to see the Employment Service's smart new 'one-stop shop' offices in their town centres, offering a high standard of customer service. This is only the start."

"As the agency evolves to meet the employment challenges of the 1990s, I expect to see further management freedoms developing."

Mr Fogden said that agency status would give local managers the freedom to act flexibly and reflect the needs of the local labour markets.

Mr Luce said: "Demanding performance targets are being set and results from the agencies already set up are encouraging. Because the Government wants the public to

feel the benefits of these more responsive services quickly, we have a new objective: I want to see Next Steps applied to at least half of the Civil Service (580,000 staff) by the end of 1991, with more to come after that."

Under Next Steps, agencies remain accountable to ministers through their chief executives, but lines of communication are speeded up by making managers more accessible to MPs and the public.

Yesterday, the British Society for Horticultural Research was the first quango to be put on an agency footing. The quango was formed by a merger between the horticultural research facilities of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Agriculture and Food Research Council's Institute of Horticultural Research.

● A ridge of high pressure

swept into Bracknell yesterday as staff at the Meteorological Office swapped cloistered civil service life for the harsher demands of the enterprise culture (Nick Nuttall writes).

After 136 years of under the yoke of strict Government supervision a brave new world of free market weather forecasting has arrived in which, isobars, Beaufort scales and rain balloons must rub shoulders with the parlance of marketing men and women.

Resort hotels and outdoor leisure centres will be able to buy personalized weather charts, concrete companies will have the opportunity to purchase charts of the best possible days for laying foundations and it is claimed that forecasting for the public will get more accurate.

The Weather Centre even has a glossy brochure of T-shirts for sale.

London parks going Dutch

By Lin Jenkins

DUTCH horticultural skills are being applied to some of central London's parks in the latest round of Westminster City Council's privatization programme.

The contract for maintaining a quarter of the council's green areas has been awarded to Krinkels of The Netherlands. Mr Liam Krinkels, owner of the company, launched the contract yesterday with a stroll beside the flowerbeds at Victoria Embankment Gardens.

He said that the Dutch influence would not herald an increase in the number of tulips planted.

The five-year contract from the Conservative-controlled council is worth £381,000 this year. Krinkels maintains parks in The Netherlands and Belgium while its British subsidiary, Continental Landscapes, has won contracts in Tower Hamlets, High Wycombe, Cumbria, Oxfordshire and West Sussex.

The workforce's first task on taking over the work was to clear the debris left from the poll tax riot around Westminster. Mr Alan Fraser, managing director of Continental Landscapes, said: "Fortunately we had a full staff scheduled to work on Sunday morning. Obviously it was not quite what we had bargained for, but we were able to cope."

Victoria Embankment Gardens is a particular favourite with London's homeless, some of whom queue up waiting for it to open at 7am.

Mr Mark Field, aged 25, who was in the Army before he became a park keeper, said yesterday: "We simply keep it neat and tidy."

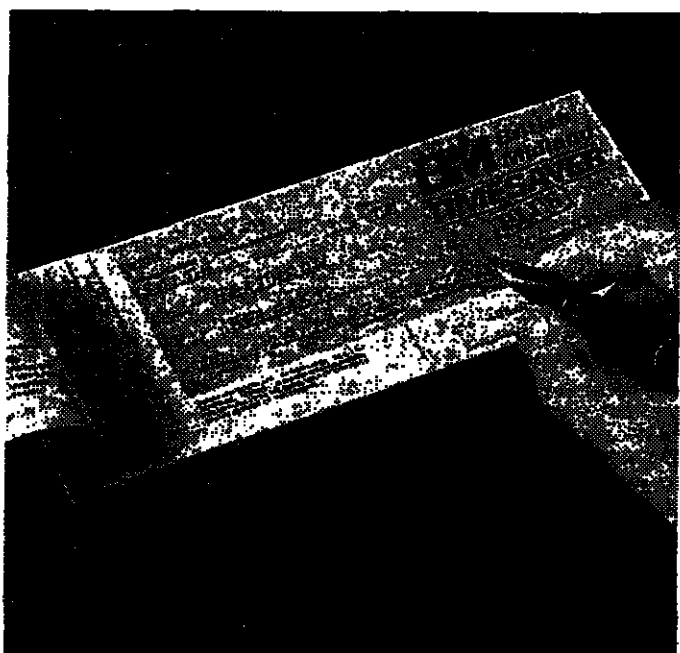
"Drunks are not moved on unless they are causing a problem, nor are the homeless. We tell them when we are closing the garden and they go off to find somewhere else to spend the night."

CORRECTION
In the report on March 30, "Widow's snoring declared illegal", Mr Michael Lawrence, the defence solicitor, should have been reported as saying that snoring was said to be bad, not good, for health.

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Riot prison warnings ignored, union says

By Ronald Faux and Peter Dawson

AS the siege of Strangeways continued last night, leaders of the prison officers' union insisted that warnings of potential trouble had been ignored by the authorities.

They also maintained that "criminal negligence" by the Government and financial cut-backs had fermented the explosion of violence.

The apparently pre-planned rebellion took place in the prison chapel at the end of Sunday morning worship, attended by 300 inmates, when a prisoner seized the microphone from the chaplain. Officials of the Prison Officers' Association said yesterday that only five of their members had been on supervision duty in the chapel.

Mr John Bartlett, chairman of the association, said at the prison yesterday: "We are no longer prepared to see our prisons overcrowded whilst some are half empty...with the Treasury refusing to resource us properly. This riot highlights that our staff, if not the public, are at risk."

Local officials of the POA yesterday blamed over-crowding and under-manning as the root causes of the riot.

Mr Ivor Serle, chairman of the association's branch in Strangeways, said economies imposed by the Home Office had laid the ground for the disturbances. "Only 120 staff were on duty to cover 1,600 prisoners. It is definitely not enough. We have been telling the Prison Department this time and time again. Our advice has been ignored."

By yesterday half of the 10 wings in the 120-year-old prison, nine accommodation blocks and a hospital unit, were still in the hands of prisoners. The Home Office said that until authorities had regained the entire complex it would be impossible to confirm reports of deaths among the inmates. Those numbers swung wildly between three and 20 yesterday.

Mr Charles Keseru, a Home Office spokesman, said that in a 30-minute operation yesterday morning the four remand wings of the prison had been retaken by staff without any violent opposition. Six prisoners in those sections had surrendered. The remaining wings stayed under the control of 120 prisoners.

Yesterday prison officers

and their leaders were particularly annoyed by a radio interview given by Mr David Melling, the Home Office Minister, in which he suggested that conditions had improved recently within Strangeways.

"If the minister thinks that five officers to supervise 300 prisoners is suitable, then I suggest he puts on a uniform and faces the reality as our staff have to do," Mr Bartlett said.

Although the authorities had still to regain control of half of the prison by late yesterday it was clear that damage was so widespread as to make the prison virtually uninhabitable.

As he left the prison yesterday Mr Serle said that he believed it would cost millions of pounds to repair the damage. By yesterday about 1,400 prisoners had either been moved to other jails or were waiting for transport.

Asked when inmates could start being returned to Strangeways, Mr Serle shrugged his shoulders and said: "A couple of years... perhaps."

The Home Office said that 12 members of the prison staff and 37 prisoners had been injured treated in hospital. None of the injuries suffered by officers was serious.

Subdued Strangeways prisoners who were discharged from a Manchester hospital yesterday, nursing injuries and grievances, were unable to resist a small, final display of resistance (Ruth Gledhill writes).

A scuffle broke out among a small number who left the North Manchester General Hospital which had received and treated the bulk of the injured. Onlookers, including patients gazing down from a maternity ward, saw a blue police van rock gently on its wheels.

Two crutches flew out of the door. Defiant shouts and bangs rang out from the steel walls of the van before the dozen prisoners were driven to police custody at Preston near Manchester.

But Mrs Sheila Lyall, nursing manager of the surgical unit, said that the prisoners had been well behaved and courteous towards hospital staff during treatment.

Leading article, page 15

Jail with history of problems

By Ronald Faux

STRANGWAYS is the archetypal Victorian prison, something that no amount of fresh paint and pastel colours could ever disguise.

It lies on the shabby fringe of central Manchester, behind impenetrably high brick walls; 10 tall cell blocks, each with a rash of small, heavily barred windows, radiate from a massive central column, a famous Manchester landmark, that acts as the main ventilation shaft for the surrounding warren of buildings.

Recently prison officers showed me improvements made to parts of the establishment, but they admitted that adapting a 120-year-old building designed with one aim in mind - to confine prisoners - was difficult.

However much the prison regime might change with such schemes as Fresh Start, the building would still have a heavy penitential air; the paint was new and cheerful, but row upon row of metal gables reached up to the skylight, and steps rang with the clatter of feet as uniformed figures filed out for exercise. It is a place of thick cell doors and constantly turning keys.

Cells designed to hold one inmate now hold three, but lavatory facilities are the same, crude and undignified. There is no privacy in slopping out each morning.

Local people watching the slow destruction of the prison during the violent disturbances show little regret. Coop people like animals and treat them better and there is at least a chance they might respond better, was the view of some.

But at Strangeways pressure on space was so great and the variety of offenders so wide that prison officers feel they have little chance to concentrate on rehabilitation.

The reason for my visit was the concern of prison officers that patients with mental illness released from hospital to community care were being drawn into minor crime and eventually ending up in an over-burdened prison service.

Staff complained that the new hospital wing at Strangeways was having to handle mentally ill patients for whose care the prison was not equipped and staff were not trained. Compounding the problem was the design of the new cells in the wing, which allowed depressive inmates to hang themselves from the bars. One had succeeded, and a redesign was ordered.

Problems that were so serious a week ago now seem irrelevant in the future of Strangeways. The new look to old walls has been erased by fire and violence. Relatives of inmates come to the barriers and complain that they cannot



Inside Strangeways: Very much a Victorian jail in spite of a fresh coat of paint

discover what has happened to their husbands and sons, their fears inflamed by local headlines claiming that 20 have died in the violence.

They rejected Strangeways as a dreadful place.

Prison officers yesterday said the disorder at Strangeways could have happened in any of a dozen jails (Quentin Cowdry writes).

The Home Office was understandably cautious yesterday about identifying further possible "flashpoints" for fear of inciting trouble. The Prison Officers' Association, however, was less circumspect. It felt there was a danger of other jails suffering disorder, an assessment shared by several prison experts.

Ten prisons in England suffer particularly severe overcrowding, the worst being at Leeds Prison, whose population of 450 prisoners is 70 per cent above the certified normal accommodation (CNA) - the official maximum.

Staff blame conditions for disturbance

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

FLAMES were still shooting above the rooftops of Manchester's Strangeways jail when the Prison Officers' Association began making what appeared to be political capital out of Britain's worst prison riot this century.

However, 36 hours after the riot began, the union's claim that the disorder was caused by primitive conditions and lack of supervision seems compelling, although it cannot wholly explain why 700 prisoners took the law into their own hands on Sunday morning in the most vicious and damaging way.

Regimes in many British prisons have undoubtedly improved since 1986, when overcrowding and a dispute between the Home Office and the Prison Officers' Association (POA) produced a spate of riots and break-outs.

The improvements however have been from a very low base. In the case of Strangeways, one of Britain's oldest and most densely populated prisons, it may well have been too little, too late.

Evidence was mounting yesterday that another factor may have been staff shortages. The POA said on Sunday the 1,625 prisoners at Strangeways were being supervised by a maximum of 120 officers, a ratio of 1:14. In the context of the jail's poor regime, it said, the low staffing levels were almost an invitation to riot.

Staff-inmate ratios are about 1:4 during the week, but

at weekends, when most officers are off work, adequate supervision becomes more difficult. Tensions are also higher then because the lack of prison officers means inmates have to be confined in their cells for longer periods.

Working conditions in prisons underwent a minor revolution in May 1987 with the signing of the Fresh Start agreement between the Home Office and the POA.

Few officers would deny that the old system was characterized by high levels of overtime, over-manning and restrictive practices. Just before the deal officers were earning an average of £15,000 a year for a 40-hour week, supplemented by 16½ hours of overtime. Some were earning over £20,000 a year, more than many governor grades.

The Home Office proposed that officers' pay should be sharply increased but that overtime should be phased out by April 1, 1992, to achieve savings of 15 per cent. In the interim about 5,000 extra officers would be recruited to make up for the lost overtime working.

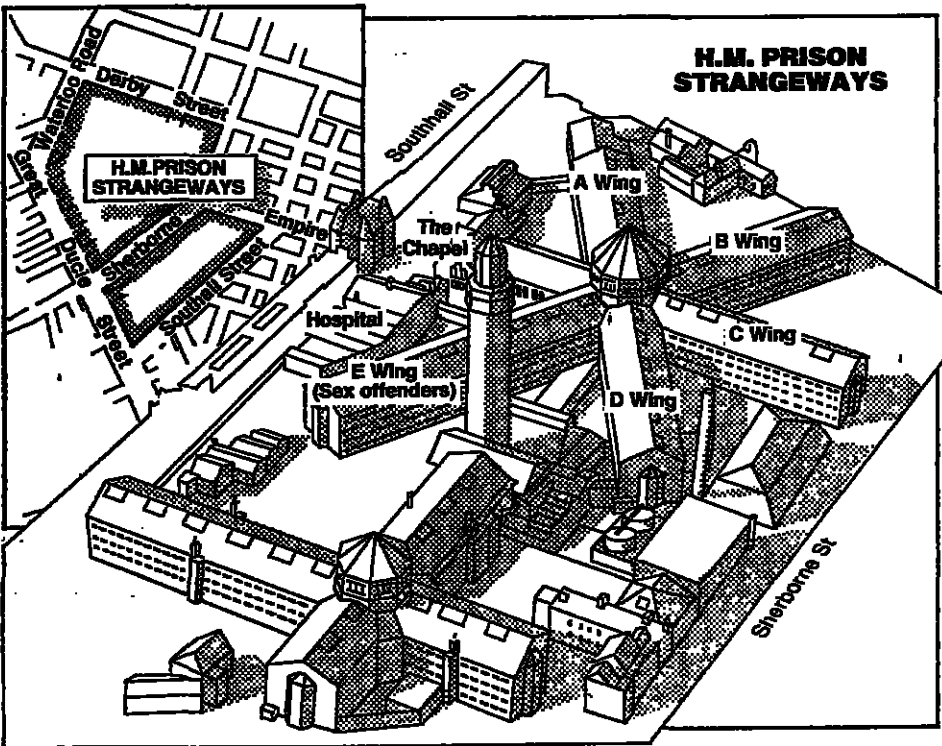
Prison officers are now meant to work a 39-hour basic week, with four extra "contracted" hours. In theory the figure should be halved by April 1, 1991, and eliminated a year later. However, because the Home Office has had difficulty recruiting officers are having to work far longer.

The officers' association estimates that an extra 1,000 uniformed staff are needed. Their concern is shared by the Prison Governors' Association, representing about 85 per cent of governor grades.

● If the Strangeways riot has underlined the urgency of attempts to improve conditions in Britain's jails, it has also highlighted the importance of courts reducing their use of custody.

Britain incarcerates, proportionately, more citizens than any other country in Western Europe. The total yesterday stood at 54,000.

Until recently, such figures caused the Government concern purely because of the implications they bore for the management of the prison system. Ministers now accept, however, that imprisoning such large numbers of people is ineffective as well as hugely expensive. It is this philosophical shift which underpinned the Home Office White Paper proposing greater use of community-based punishments.



Quake second biggest for over 100 years

By Pearce Wright and Craig Seton

BRITAIN yesterday suffered its second biggest earthquake for more than 100 years when tremors centred in North Wales were felt as far afield as London, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Bristol and Exeter.

The 20-second tremor at 2.46pm measured 5.2 on the Richter scale and was exceeded only by one of magnitude 5.4, in 1984, which also had an epicentre in North Wales, 20 kilometres deep, near Porthmadog, Gwynedd.

In Birmingham yesterday lifts in tower blocks jammed when safety brakes came on

automatically, and across the West Midlands and Black Country people were evacuated from buildings.

In Shrewsbury, Shropshire, masonry and tiles were dislodged, streets were closed, a gas main was fractured and several chimneys fell, one smashing through the roof of the Victorian railway station.

Three streets in the old town were sealed off by police, and in one brickwork collapsed and damaged a parked car. Hundreds of workers at the Shirehall, where power was cut off, the Guildhall and

several other buildings were evacuated, and trains were delayed while the structure of the station was checked.

Several office blocks were evacuated when automatic fire alarms were set off. Among these were the headquarters of West Midlands police, where the switchboard was flooded with calls from anxious members of the public.

The Lucas Aerospace building near Birmingham airport was also evacuated and in Pelsall, near Walsall, a house was evacuated when it was feared that the tremor had caused structural damage.

Police and the fire service in the West Midlands reported dozens of calls from people saying that buildings had shaken, plaster had cracked and crockery had fallen from shelves. However, no serious damage was caused and there were no reports of injuries.

Several tall office blocks in Swindon, Wiltshire, and in Bristol were cleared of people as a precaution. The County Hall at Trowbridge, Wiltshire, was also partially evacuated as a safety measure.

The earthquake yesterday was a very large one for Britain and, according to experts, one expected to happen on average no more than once in 100 years. It was not the first in Britain this year. A tremor centred on Sheffield measured 3.2 on the Richter scale in February, and last month six minor tremors shook the Stoke-on-Trent area.

In the last 10 years, England and Wales have been hit by more than 60 earth tremors that have registered more than 2.5. That means they were sufficiently powerful for people to feel the vibration they caused.

The most damaging British earthquake was in Colchester in 1884 when a church steeple fell, many people were made homeless and a child died. In 1580, a quake struck an area along a geological fault that stretches from Kent to Belgium, killing two people in London. It is estimated to have measured 6.4.

IRA using campaign 'to its own advantage'

MEMBERS of the Provisional IRA have infiltrated the Free the Birmingham Six campaign, Mr Geoffrey Dear, the former West Midlands Chief Constable, said yesterday. He said information had been received suggesting terrorists were using campaigners and manipulating the protests to their own ends.

Mr Dear emphasized that most of those supporting the campaign had good intentions

Paper's apology

Mrs Jane Makin, the Duchess of York's sister, yesterday accepted a public apology and substantial undisclosed damages over *Daily Mirror* reports falsely suggesting she destroyed her marriage by having an affair with an Argentine polo player and an allegation that she tried to abduct her own children.

Norwood leads

After five rounds of the junior international chess tournament at Oakham School, Leicestershire, David Norwood, the grandmaster from Bolton, leads with 4½ points. Michael Adams, of Truro, the British champion, is in second equal place on four points with Uliana of the Soviet Union, and Anand of India.

Justice for car

Mr Justice Michael Davies, a senior High Court judge, offered a public apology yesterday to his car which he described last week as "a clapped out Volvo". His comment about the car came while summing up in the Lord Linley libel action last week. He offered the car "a good service" in lieu of damages.

Radio facelift

The BBC's four national radio networks are to be given new logos to be launched with a campaign that will tell listeners about changes to Radio 2. At the end of August the station will switch to FM stereo to release its medium wave slot to Radio 5, which will broadcast sport and education programmes.

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Ferry safety is 'still too low'

By David Saperstein

EXISTING international safety standards are not sufficient to prevent a repetition of the Herald of Free Enterprise tragedy in which 193 passengers and crew died three years ago, according to the results of a Department of Transport research programme published yesterday.

All three dozen roll-on roll-off vessels operating out of British ports are to be surveyed by department inspectors and, if international agreement on tougher safety standards cannot be reached, the Government may consider unilateral action to force them on passenger ferries serving British ports.

The study showed that, while international standards due to come into force this month for new ships appeared to provide reasonable safeguards, safety regulations for existing vessels were "not sufficient to rule out the possibility of capsizing".

The report said: "If early, international agreement on a higher standards for existing ships cannot be achieved, the UK should initiate discussions with European maritime administrations. Should that approach fail, then the UK should consider the

possibility of the unilateral introduction of higher standards for all vessels operating into UK ports."

The risk of rapid capsizing all existing ferries should they be involved in a collision or, in the case of the *Herald of Free Enterprise*, set sail with their bow doors open.

Mr Peter Spooner, spokesman for the Herald Families' Association which represents those bereaved by the Zeebrugge disaster, said: "Our main fear is that it has taken three years to highlight a problem that people knew existed even before the *Herald* went down."

"How long is it going to take now before improvements are made that will make existing ferries safe for the millions who travel on them each year?"

Since the Zeebrugge disaster, the Department of Transport has found that three ferries do not meet requirements adopted a decade ago.

A spokesman for the department said last night that it was not known how many of the existing fleet would meet the much tougher, 1990 standards.

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Nevertheless you may take the view that this is only Autocar & Motor's opinion.

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Couple lose damages claim over radiation

By Michael Horsnell and Ronald Faux

A COUPLE who were forced to sell their home at a fraction of its value, because of radioactive contamination from the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant, lost their legal battle for compensation yesterday.

In the first case of its kind, Mr Justice Gagehouse rejected their claim against British Nuclear Fuels and ruled that radiation risks were no more than trivial.

For Mr Chris Merlin, his wife, Christine, and their two young sons, the house called Mountain Ash, at Ravensglass, six miles from the plant, was the perfect family home.

Solid, spacious and a little bit grand with a fine view over the Cumbrian coast, it was a world away from the commuter rush of the South-east from which Mr Merlin, an engineer, had escaped.

The Merlins ran the village post office and stores and settled into what they hoped would be a less stressful style of life. The end of their dream came after an official of the National Radiological Protection Board asked permission to plug a monitoring device into their power supply.

At that stage, with one child and another on the way, they were concerned and subsequently agreed to have a sample of their domestic dust analysed.

The operation was performed by Professor Edward Radford, an epidemiologist from Pittsburgh University, and the result alarmed the Merlins. It showed levels of plutonium 905 times greater than the national average and of americium, which can cause lung cancer, 17,000 times above normal.

They had bought Mountain Ash for £32,750, lived there for 11 years and made improvements to the property. Yet the most they could get for it was £35,500 at a public auction. The buyer was a man who worked at BNFL.

It took nearly seven years for the Merlins to win legal aid and for a High Court action to be heard. They claimed damages of £150,000 against British Nuclear Fuels.

The couple were "astounded" yesterday, however, when the judge ruled in the High Court that the presence of radioactivity in the house did not amount to "damage" and the couple were not entitled to compensation.

Mr Justice Gagehouse said that the Merlins claimed they were entitled to compensation under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965. Under the Act, compensation could be paid if damage or physical injury had been caused by discharges from nuclear plants.

It was the couple's case that the mere presence of the radioactivity from Sellafield constituted damage under the Act. But the judge ruled that the law covered only actual damage to tangible property

and actual physical damage - it did not cover "risk".

It was the nature of nuclear installations that there would be some additional radioactivity over and above natural occurrences in local homes.

If the mere presence of the additional source amounted to damage then BNFL would inevitably be continuously in breach of its duty to possibly thousands of citizens, "each of whom would have a claim for compensation".

Costs of the 37-day hearing, spread over 10 weeks, are estimated at £2 million.

Mr Merlin, aged 48, three times British go-kart champion, said the couple would consider an appeal. "I think it was a rather morally cowardly, blinkered judgement."

"It's absolutely tragic - seven years of our lives have been wasted on a moral issue. The judge acknowledged that we lost directly as a result of the contamination but in no way were we compensated by the massive concern which rises throughout over people's lives and their children's lives," Mr Merlin said.

He thought people in Cumbria would be very frightened by the decision because it meant they had no cover against Sellafield's activities.

The director of information for BNFL, Mr Jeffrey Preece, said he was very pleased. "The only sympathy I felt for the Merlins was that they had been so badly advised - there was no substantive case."

"As the judge said, if the Merlins' view of the law had prevailed we would have been in breach of statutory duty every day of the week. We would have been opened up to thousands of claims."

"Every increase in radiation involves some slight increase in risk. That is the accepted technical view and the basis on which we are regulated."

Mr Martin Day, solicitor for the Merlins, said: "We believe the judge's decision today has left open the whole area of Cumbria to a position where if Chernobyl happened tomorrow no one would have any financial claims in terms of loss to their property. It's a matter of great concern to the people of West Cumbria in particular."

The family has moved to an 80-acre smallholding in the Cumbrian hills, some 12 miles from the coast.

A farmer who had to sell his land near Sellafield very cheaply because its value was blighted by contamination from the nuclear complex has been granted legal aid to sue BNFL for compensation.

Mr Tony Head, who now lives at Calthwaite, Cumbria, farmed the 350-acre Abbey Farm at St Bees for 18 years and sold it in 1984 for an undisclosed sum.

Law report, page 32



Mr and Mrs Merlin: Took nearly seven years to win legal aid and for a High Court action to be heard

Entente helps to rescue actor's car

By Nicholas Watt

CO-OPERATION between French and British detectives to win back Peter Ustinov's £2 million classic car, which a Lyons industrialist has claimed he bought in good faith, bodes well for European friendship, the actor said yesterday. The car was stolen from a garage in the Riviera.

The actor-playwright said he was half way to getting back his 1934 Hispano Suiza J12, one of only 16, after French police placed an injunction against anyone touching it, including M Petrus Guillot, the new "owner".

Mr John Ingram, the managing director of the security consultants Hamilton Ingram, which was used by Mr Ustinov to find the car, said it could have been stolen as far back as 1986 when its mechanic had a heart attack.

He said the £100,000 search

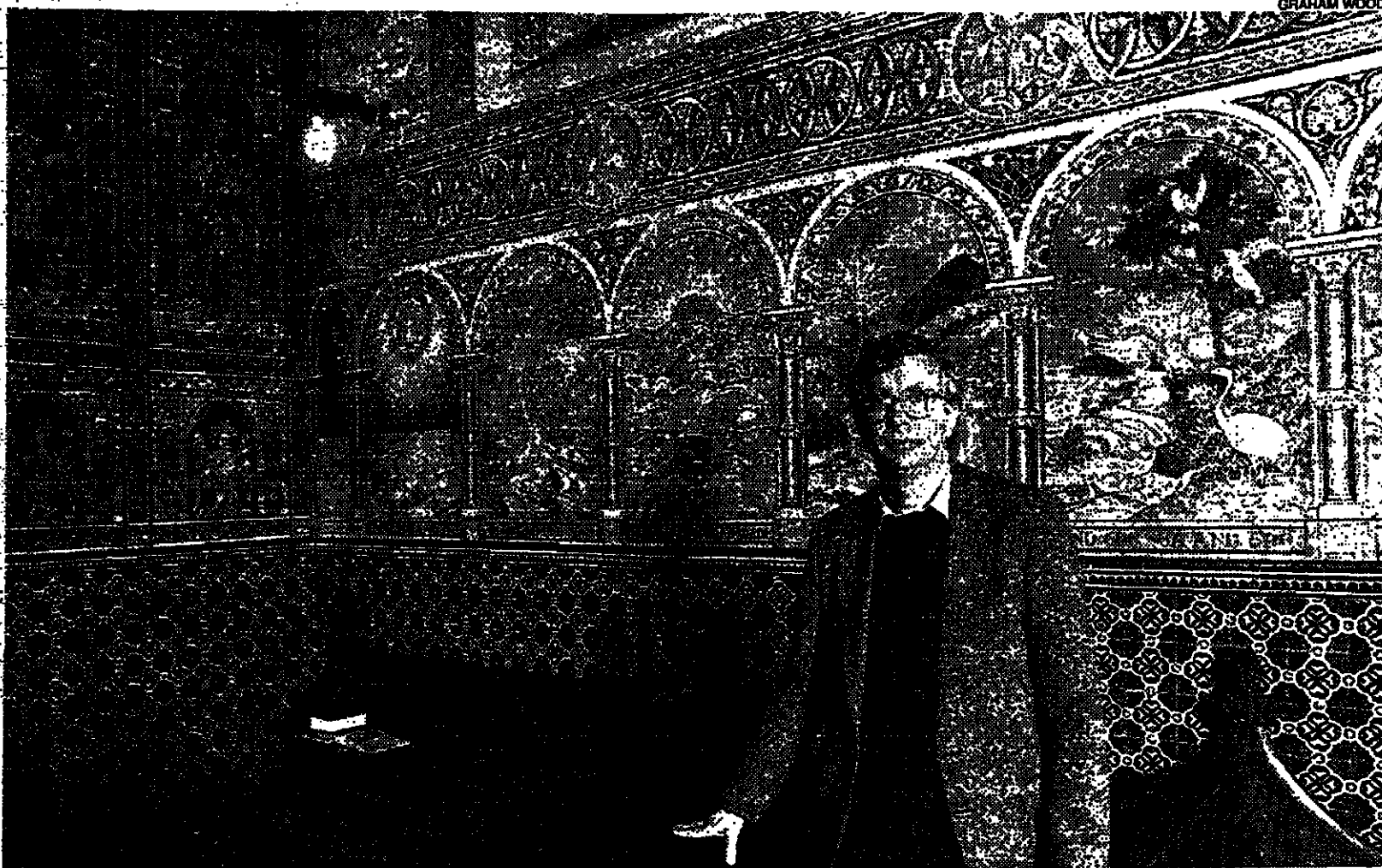
involved a visit to a car historian in Barcelona, two trips to Lyons, where the car's 1947 owner was traced, and trips to Paris that provided the final clue when an engineer at the Suiza factory linked the chassis number with M Guillot.

The matter is now in the hands of lawyers because Mr Ustinov said the £50,000 which M Guillot paid for the car four years ago meant his "good faith" had to be established.

Mr Ustinov said he had hired a detective agency for the six-month investigation to find the car because "I loathe it when things are stolen and this thing is of extraordinary rarity".

Mr Ustinov's former wife, Suzanne Cloutier, gave him the 20 ft three-ton car, nicknamed Le Monstre, in 1962.

Saved murals to be Pevsner memorial



Dr David Neave, a lecturer in history at Hull University, with some of the Victorian murals at St Michael and All Angels, Garton-on-the-Wolds, Humberside. A trust has been set up to restore the peeling plaster work of the murals adorning the church's walls and ceilings as a memorial to Sir

Nikolaus Pevsner, the architectural historian who died in 1983. The Pevsner Memorial Trust, whose patrons include the Duke of Gloucester and the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, has raised about £100,000 to restore the murals, which were commissioned in the 1870s and 1880s,

but more money is required. Dr Neave, organizer of the appeal, said: "The Pevsner Memorial Trust intends to continue raising money in order to provide a fund to ensure the restored wall paintings are inspected regularly and not allowed to deteriorate again. The murals were painted on plaster at

the village church during restoration work in Victorian times but damp had taken its toll. "They are the only paintings of this kind that I know still exist in an English church," Dr Neave said. The Pevsner trust also hopes to produce an illustrated booklet about the paintings.

Clemency urged for kidney surgeon

By John Young

A FORMER president of the British Transplantation Society, who had earlier denounced payments to kidney donors as wholly unacceptable, yesterday pleaded that Mr Michael Bewick, a transplant surgeon, should not be struck off the register.

Mr Robert Ross Taylor, a consultant surgeon at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, who told the General Medical Council's professional conduct committee last January that he would put payments to donors "top of the list" of unethical behaviour, reappeared before the committee yesterday to testify to Mr Bewick's achievements.

Last Thursday the committee found that Mr Bewick, Mr Michael Joyce, a urologist, and Dr Raymond Crockett, a kidney specialist, had taken part in the sale of kidneys by four Turkish donors.

Mr Ross Taylor, who originally laid a formal complaint to the committee on the society's behalf, said he had come "as a volunteer rather than a prosecutor" to make a personal plea on Mr Bewick's behalf.

A verdict on the charges of serious professional misconduct is expected tomorrow.

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Insurance groups and police may face £10m riot bill

By Stewart Tendler and Neil Bennett

DAMAGE to hundreds of vehicles and properties in the West End of London during Saturday's poll tax riot could cost Scotland Yard and insurance companies £10 million or more.

As a team of 100 Scotland Yard detectives, based at Cannon Row police station, began work on investigating 558 reported crimes the Yard put the estimated cost of the damage at an initial £1 million.

Labour rebels lose headway

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

THE much vaunted campaign by hard-left Labour MPs against payment of the poll tax is weakening, with senior party sources believing that as few as 10 MPs will take their protest as far as having their earnings or savings arrested.

Senior members of the party suspect that many of those supporting the federation will eventually pay the charge and that others are making arrangements now. Labour said yesterday that so far none of the MPs had broken the rules of the House of Commons or the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Inquiries by *The Times* show that several of those supporting the federation will not take their campaign as far as breaking the law and that others will pay the same amount as their last rates bill.

Among those contacted by *The Times* who remain com-

mitted to non-payment are Miss Mildred Gordon (Bow and Poplar), Mr Bernard Grant (Tottenham), Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North), Mr Maxwell Madden (Bradford West), Mr Eddie Loyden (Liverpool Garston), Mr Harry Cohen (Leyton), Mr Terry Fields (Liverpool Broadgreen), Mr George Galloway (Glasgow Hillhead), Mr Dave Nellist (Coventry South East) and Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West).

● The BBC faced political and public anger yesterday after a Radio 4 talk-show guest said he was totally in favour of the "terrific" riot in London.

The writer Hanif Kureishi, asked on *Start the Week* about the disturbances, said: "I think the riots at the weekend were terrific. I am all for them." He suggested that the violence was due to police behaviour.

cases of damage to vehicles, involving 200 actual vehicles.

Scotland Yard remains adamant in defence of police tactics. The Yard chose to rely largely on ordinary uniformed officers to police the march. That is aimed at avoiding charges of an oppressive presence with riot-equipped officers.

Planners took into account the possibility of trouble but expected that officers would face no more than 1,500 trouble-makers and not the 3,000 to 3,500 who emerged from the crowds.

The rampage through the West End will be felt for some time by the police and the insurance companies. Scotland Yard's official receiver may decide officially to declare the incident as a riot under the 1886 Riot (Damages) Act which means that the police will have to meet the bill for at least some compensation.

The Act allows for claims against the police for damage to buildings and losses through theft or damage. Personal injury or damage to vehicles is not covered.

Last night Det. Chief Supt Roy Ramm, leading the inquiry into crime at the demonstration, appealed to the public to let police see their videos and photographs which could help identify any ringleaders.

Police have begun watching over 100 hours of video footage taken by police teams on Saturday and Scotland Yard may use legal powers to obtain other material from television and newspapers.

Letters, page 15



Anarchist literature, used in an ordered campaign to promote disorder, on sale at 121 Centre in Brixton, London. Metal grilles protect it from the violence it fosters

Anarchists planning further 'resistance'

By Jamie Dettmer

HARDLINE anarchist groups involved in the anti-poll tax riot in central London on Saturday have said they intend to organize "resistance" against councils trying to collect the community charge from defaulters.

Class War, one of the most violent of the punk anarchist groups, yesterday said the resistance bailiffs would face when trying to collect the charge would rival the violence witnessed in Trafalgar Square and Whitehall at the weekend.

The warning is being taken seriously by some inner London councils which acknowledge that collection will be difficult from student bed-sit land and squats, the main recruiting areas for Class War and other anarchist groups. Speaking on BBC Radio yesterday, Mr Andy Murphy, aged 28, a leader of one of Class War's 10 groups spread around the country, said rioters who attacked the police on Saturday were "working-class heroes". He said: "The police were attacked and rightly so."

Mr Murphy, a clerk in the finance department of a London borough, said the violence erupted after the crowd was provoked by police who were defending 10 Downing Street — "bastion of the ruling class". He said: "They had every right to attempt to remove the police from their way."

Class War, which preaches "hate and revolution", is one of the four main anarchist groups in the country. It has a core membership of about 200 and was founded by Mr Ian Bone, a sociology graduate from Swansea University, and Mr Martin Wright, a road sweeper, in 1983.

The group sprang to fame with its 1985 "Bash the Rich" marches in London's Notting Hill and at the Henley Regatta. It also organized a violent "Stop the City" demonstration in 1987 which brought traffic in the Square Mile to a virtual standstill for several hours.

It provoked some of the worst violence witnessed at the 1986 printing union dispute in Wapping, London. Its newspaper, *Class War*, which is published in Manchester, has adopted the cruel, lurid style of the underground newspapers of the 1960s, such as *Oz*.

The group focuses much of its efforts on propaganda against what it sees as "yuppie" developments in London's Docklands.

In dress, *Class War* members favour Doctor Marten boots and black jeans. Recently it showed interest in becoming slightly more thoughtful about its anarchism, publishing a "theoretical" magazine *The Heavy Stuff*.

Class War members are

rivalled in terms of their ability in acting as provocateurs at marches only by supporters of the Direct Action Movement. This group has also been involved in attacks on businesses in London's Docklands.

DAM was founded in 1979 and has about 20 groups in England and Wales. It favours industrial struggles and models itself on the Spanish anarcho-sindicalist movement.

It publishes a regular newspaper which in the last issue advocated building up street-based groups to resist councils trying to collect the poll tax.

In keeping with anarcho-sindicalist roots, it urges supporters to agitate in their workplace against the charge. Its newspaper says: "There also needs to be the fullest possible activity undertaken in the workplace. The most encouraging activity so far has been from members of the CPSA in seven London Social Security offices who took up a week's unofficial action against form NHB10(c), which grassed claimants up to the local Community Charge Registration Officer."

It argues that council workers involved in implementing the poll tax should be encouraged to disrupt collection.

The group is critical of Militant, which runs the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation, organizers of Saturday's march, which it sees as being more concerned with taking over the Labour Party than resisting the Government and trade union bureaucracies.

DAM probably has more than 400 supporters. Its black and red flags were seen flying in Trafalgar Square at the weekend.

Black Cross is the oldest of the violent anarchist groups. Founded 19 years ago, it publishes the most regular and the best written of the anarchist newspapers, *Black Flag*. It backs class struggle and is in close contact with other European anarchist groups, especially in Spain and Belgium. It attracted publicity for its support of the Angry Brigade.

Black Cross uses a number of publishing names — Hooligan Press, Hurricane, Drowned Rat — and has been responsible for issuing a manual on how to evade police forensic methods and riot tactics and one listing the home addresses of prominent businesses and politicians.

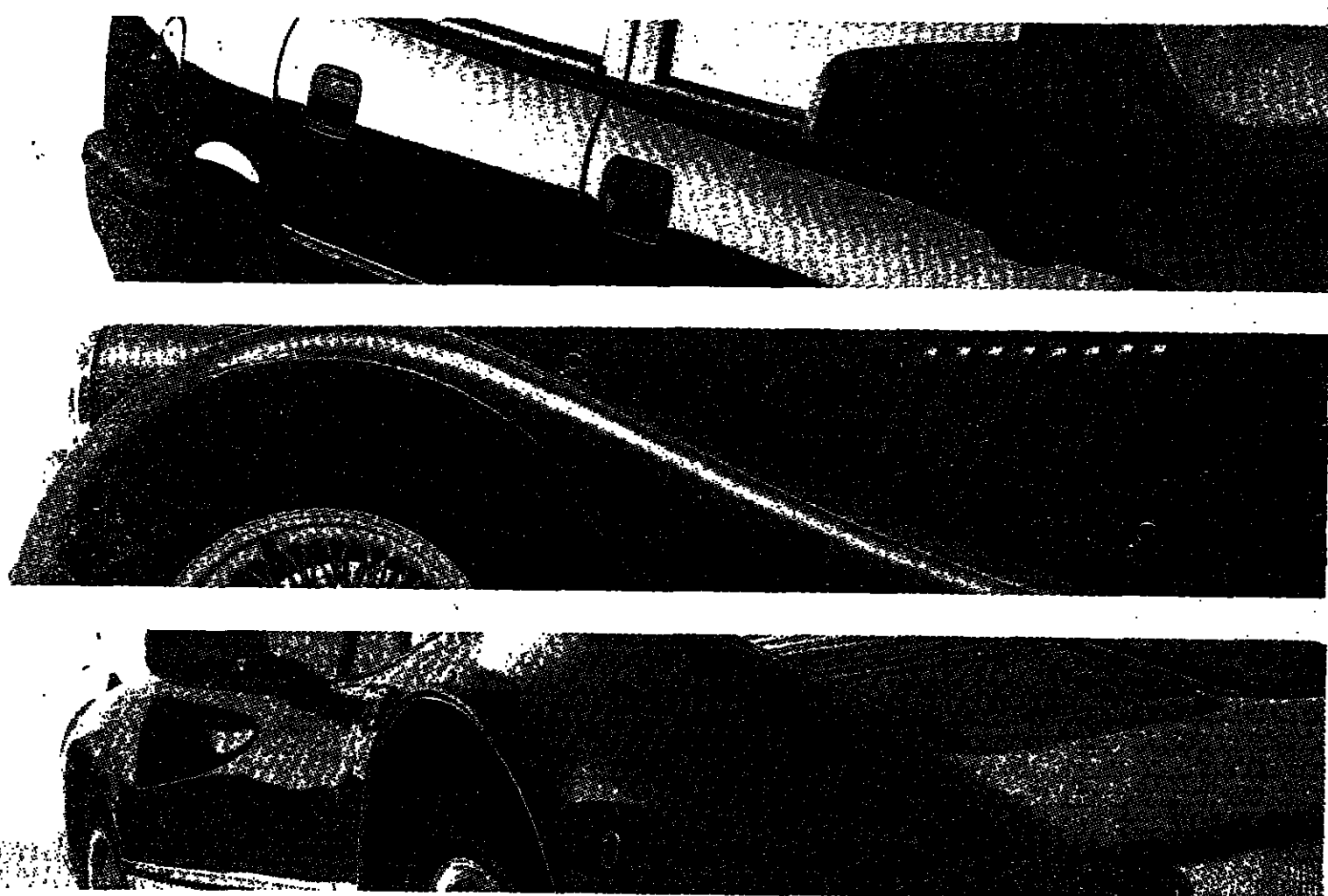
It is closely associated with the anarchist bookshop at 121 Raiton Road, Brixton.

Yesterday *The Times* interviewed three anarchists at the bookshop who said they had been involved in the rioting on Saturday. All three denied membership of Black Cross but admitted they were involved in "resistance against Maggie's tax — the poll tax."

John — not his real name — who was wearing Doc Marten boots and a torn green sweater, said: "We hate Thatcher — I'd like to string her up. It's strange, we see all this stuff about how heroic people are in demonstrating in eastern Europe but once it comes here the press is 'up in arms'."

A fourth group involved on Saturday was the Anarchist Communist Federation which publishes *Organise!* and *Virus*. Founded four years ago, it urges supporters to take over the anti-poll tax agitation and to push out the Trotskyite Militant organization.

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72 demonstrators come before the magistrates

By Mark Sooster and Tom Giles

SEVENTY-TWO of the 339 people arrested after violence erupted at a poll tax demonstration in central London on Saturday appeared in court yesterday.

They were charged with a variety of offences, principally under the Public Order Act. The remainder have been bailed to appear at a later date.

Scotland Yard released figures yesterday which showed that 298 of those arrested were

male, 41 female, 227 were aged between 17 and 25 and 196 had London addresses.

The Yard said 224 were employed and 115 were unemployed.

A total of 214 people were charged with public order offences, 46 with obstruction of police, 31 with obstruction of the highway, 23 with criminal damage, and 20 with burglary.

Other offences included ar-

Australians drop plan for poll tax

From Robert Cockburn, Sydney

Violent protests against the poll tax, including the weekend riot in London, have prompted the premature denial of a NSW poll tax.

Details of changes to the state's rates system were not due for release until later this week. A poll tax, largely inspired, like many aspects of Liberal policy, by Mrs Thatcher, had been the front-runner, but changes in rates valuations are now predicted.

"They would go berserk here," Mr George Buckworth, QC, a New South Wales Liberal politician and an old friend of Mrs Thatcher, said. Even theoretical supporters of the poll tax, such as Mr Buckworth, no longer consider it politically tolerable.

son, theft, burglary and violent disorder.

Twenty-seven people appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, including three men charged in relation to disturbances during the Home Secretary's visit to the scene of the riot on Sunday. Two of them were remanded in custody and the third, charged with threatening behaviour, was given conditional bail.

A further 22 people appeared at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court. They included Mario Turegano Acosta, aged 22, a Spanish tourist, who was jailed for 28 days after he admitted stealing two bottles of perfume from a pharmacy in Regent Street.

Another demonstrator, Alice Sheldon, aged 27, member of the Reading Berkshire, was fined £100 and ordered to pay £25 costs after pleading guilty to obstructing police officers.

A company director, accused of assaulting a policeman, a middle-aged chef, a marine engineer and a German business man were among 11 people who appeared at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court in connection with the riot.

Others included a journalist, a university chemistry student, an economics student, a graphic designer and a wild life charity worker.

Mr John Nicholas, the magistrate, criticized police for releasing a man on bail accused of looting. Nine people were remanded

High leads abuse

Council faults beach survey

Pilgrims unlikely

High stress level leads to alcohol abuse by teachers

By David Tytler, Education Editor

STRESS among teachers is leading to "alarming levels" of smoking and alcohol abuse and a dependence on drugs, according to a survey of nearly 1,800 teachers published yesterday.

The survey showed that one teacher in five smoked, with 88 per cent drinking the equivalent of more than five pints of beer a week and 20 per cent drinking the equivalent of more than 10 pints. More than 21 per cent said their alcohol consumption was stress-related.

Nearly one in five teachers were on prescribed drugs, 28 per cent of them taking anti-depressants and 26 per cent sleeping pills.

On average, teachers were absent from school for seven days last year, resulting in the loss of 12,475 teaching days.

A quarter said they suffered a significant illness related to stress, like myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME or "yuppie flu"), stomach upsets, asthma, back and neck problems, anxiety and depression.

The research also shows that 66 per cent had considered leaving the profession in the past five years, 28 per cent

were actively looking for alternative employment and 13 per cent were seeking premature retirement.

The three regions with the highest numbers contemplating leaving are East Anglia, followed by Wales and Greater London.

The main reason for dissatisfaction was low pay, but teachers are also unhappy with their work load, lack of opportunity to use their abilities, hours of work, physical working conditions, industrial relations, lack of recognition for good work, the poor management of schools and lack of promotion chances.

The survey was commissioned by the 118,000-strong National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers and was carried out by the Manchester University Institute of Science and Technology.

Professor Cary Cooper, who organized the survey, said that in comparison to other high stress occupations such as medicine, dentistry and nursing, teachers had significantly lower levels of job satisfaction and significantly higher levels of mental ill-health. At least

one in five teachers were showing the same symptoms of anxiety and depression as a group of out-patients being treated for mental illness.

Mr Fred Smithies, the general secretary, said: "The survey is extremely disturbing. Too many teachers are endangering their health in order to cope with the stresses which the job of teaching is generating."

"It is clear that the stress comes from a variety of sources: heavy workload, low pay and esteem, bad working conditions, lack of promotion. Many teachers resent having to spend 50 hours a week and more to get their work done. As Government reforms begin to bite later this year, the pressure will get worse," Mr Smithies said.

The survey reports that teachers in church schools say their work is more difficult than in those run by the state.

It also shows that teachers in independent schools are not under so much stress as those in state schools: discipline is not a problem; they have smaller classes; their status is recognized and they feel secure in their jobs.

Patten stakes a claim for the VAT man



MR Chris Patten trying out what looks like the ultimate environmentally friendly office yesterday after announcing a major employment fillip for North-west England.

The Secretary of State for the Environment cast aside his poll tax worries to create a scene reminiscent of *Monty Python's Flying Circus* at Queen's Dock, Liverpool, after announcing that part of HM Customs and Excise is to move to the site.

Speaking during a visit to Liverpool, he disclosed that a new VAT centre for all of Britain is to be built

in the city's docklands. The centre, which will create up to 1,000 jobs in an area of high unemployment, is expected to be completed by 1993. It is to be built next to the Liverpool Marina on a six-acre site cleared by the Merseyside Development Corporation. The scheme will also involve the relocation of nearly 250 jobs from the South-east, and, in the long-term, creation of a further 400 jobs.

Earlier, Mr Patten had cut a ribbon to mark the completion of the first three of 24 planned luxury penthouse flats in the showpiece Albert Dock

development. The fifth-floor penthouses are priced at £300,000 each and all have roof-top galleries with views of the Mersey and the Liverpool waterfront.

Mr Patten was given a bird's-eye view of the developments, flying over the docklands by helicopter before completing his visit with a tour of the award-winning Eldonian Village project in the run-down Vauxhall district of the city.

The Secretary of State for the Environment said: "Liverpool is attracting jobs from elsewhere and is becoming an increasingly attractive jobs magnet."

Council faults beach survey

By David Young

THE beach at Blackpool, Britain's most popular holiday resort, has failed to meet Common Market cleanliness standards in a government survey which also failed to inspect the beaches at other resorts such as Torquay.

The National Consumer Council has said the information discovered by the Department of the Environment should be issued in a "user-friendly" form for people who plan to spend holidays in Britain this year.

The survey found that 76 per cent of Britain's 440 identified bathing sites, 401 in England and Wales, 23 in Scotland and 16 in Northern Ireland, met the standards laid down by the EC directive on bathing water quality.

The council, however, says the figures disguise the fact that the failure rate in the North-west was 66 per cent. This includes beaches at resorts such as Blackpool, Morecambe, Southport and New Brighton. It also found that the definition of a bathing site meant that some beaches, such as Torquay, and sites on rivers, lakes and lochs were not included in the survey.

Ms Teresa Perchard, a researcher for the council, said that while the results of the survey had been welcomed by the Government, they did not look so encouraging when set against the required 95 per cent compliance standard. Writing in *Consumer Voice*, she noted: "This is important information for anyone intending to take a dip at these and other locations which failed to pass the test. Yet the results are not published in a way which ensures that every consumer who needs it has it readily to hand."

"Government replies to parliamentary questions and a Department of Environment press release can hardly be described as systematically informing the customers."

Garden's new head looks to future

By Kerry Gill

THE appointment yesterday of Dr David Ingram as Regius Keeper of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, coincided aptly with the start of the second International Science Festival.

Just 24 hours into his new post, Dr Ingram was preparing for one of the garden's busiest periods. As part of the science festival, the Royal Botanic Garden will host a programme of lectures, exhibitions and special events as well as showing unusual plants, fungi and rainforest foods.

Dr Ingram, aged 48, a former reader in plant pathology at Cambridge University, said botanic gardens had a vital role to play in research, conservation and education.

During the science festival he will take part in the "Edinburgh Conversations" when experts from Scotland and the Soviet Union will discuss environmental issues.

There is no fixed agenda but the conversations will involve scientists, politicians and industrialists. The most important topic is expected to be the future of the environment in relation to global warming and world food stocks.

Dr Ingram said that with plant science research concentrating more on cellular and sub-cellular processes, there was a greater need than before for people working in the gardens to understand whole plants and fungi, how they grow, and their evolution, ecology and conservation.

"Without such resources, all efforts to harness the new technologies of molecular and cell biology to extend the frontiers of scientific knowledge and to improve the world's food supply must surely founder," he said.

Dr Ingram said the work of the botanic gardens during the coming decade had the potential to affect the quality of life for everyone into the next century.

Pilgrimage to unlikely shrine

By Anne Kiggell

ONCE you had to be dead to be venerated; the founders of literary societies preferred the 19th century and historians seldom have a good word for historical novels.

Those assumptions were turned upside down at the weekend in Edinburgh. Flanked by conferences of paediatricians and of local government officials, stood formally blazoned The Dorothy Dunn Convention.

Dorothy Dunn? She is an unlikely cult figure: a 66-year-old writer of highly literate, intricately constructed historical novels and, according to an historian from Lancaster University, "the Sir Walter Scott of the 20th century".

Dunn started 30 years ago with the six-volume saga of Crawford of Lyndon, who sprang from the Scots Border to France, Malta, North Africa, Constantinople and Moscow in the 16th century. Then came a *Macbeth* novel, with a new and seriously researched historical base.

Readers who enjoy a

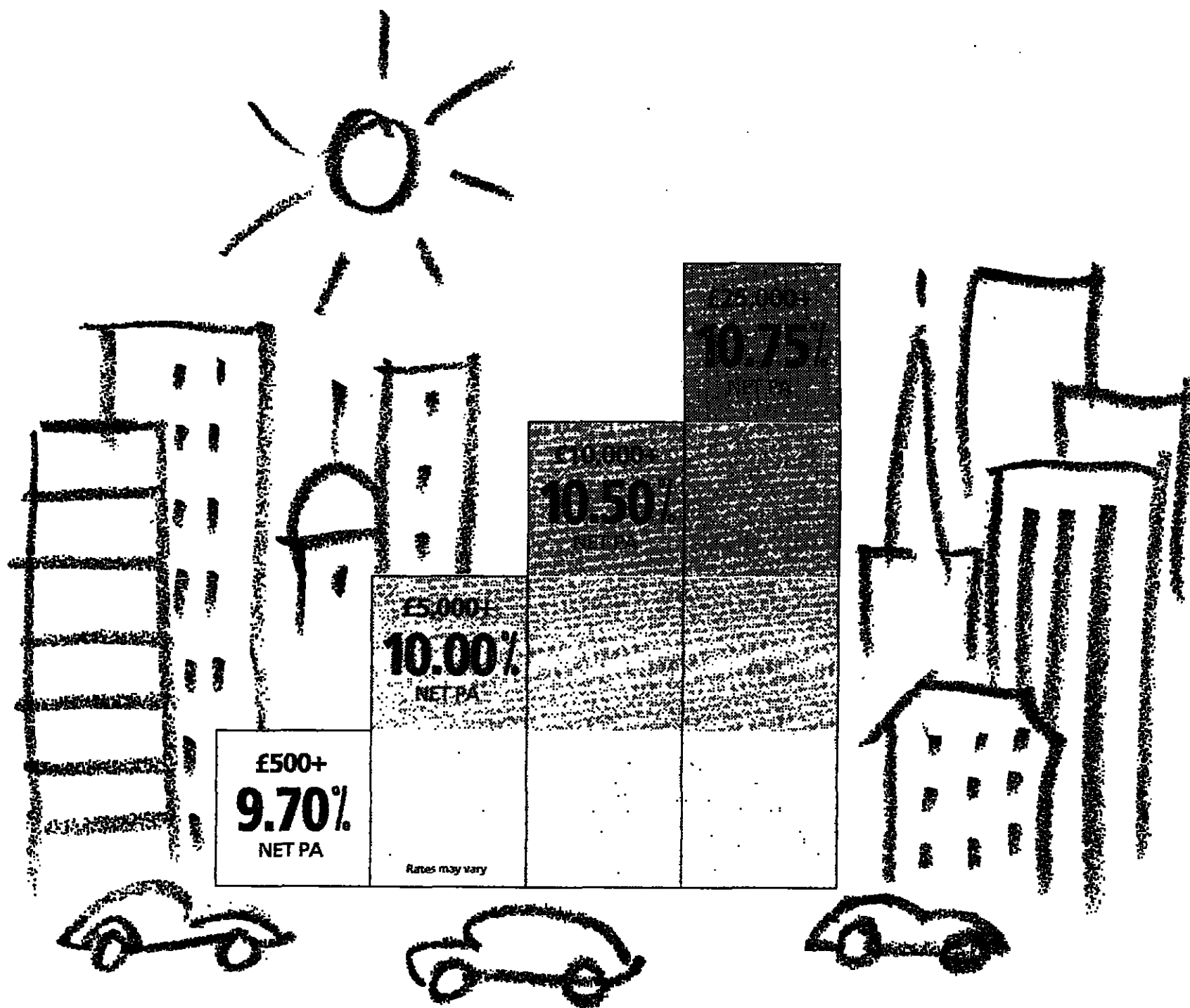
demanding *mille-feuille* of detailed research, baroque imagination, staggering dramatic twists, multilingual literary allusion and scenes that can be very funny, have found a very approachable writer.

The pilgrims had gathered in Edinburgh from throughout Britain and North America.

People who had been writing to Dorothy Dunn for up to 26 years were bussed to her house - a strange sight for the neighbours on a respectable Edinburgh Sunday afternoon.



Dorothy Dunn: Novels mix history and puzzles



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Defence and security in a rapidly changing world

CONTINUING change in the Soviet Union and the tremendous events of 1989 elsewhere in Eastern Europe have transformed the East/West setting within which the North Atlantic alliance has for the past 40 years kept its peoples safe in freedom.

This sets new questions about the contribution Western military forces should make to security. Defence planners must ask themselves afresh how they should approach the task of assessing what remains truly necessary.

What has been happening in the Warsaw Pact stretches beyond all post-war experience. Neither Western observers nor indeed the leaders of Eastern Europe can be sure how it will turn out or where limits of probability, or of tolerance, may lie.

It is barely five years since President Gorbachev came to power, and little over a year since he first promised major reductions in Soviet forces. The United Kingdom wish him well in his reforms; we keenly hope that he will succeed. Change on this scale and at this pace, however, is rarely a tidy and consistent process. We cannot foresee its development, and we certainly cannot assume that it will stay smoothly on its original heading.

The events in Transcaucasia are not to be lumped together with Tiananmen

Square and Timisoara (Romania); but all these remind us that regimes and societies deformed by decades of totalitarianism may not react to unfamiliar stresses as established democracies would like.

The Soviet Union faces immense problems whose full impact we are only beginning to see. The characteristic pattern of change in Russia, over the centuries, is not one of peaceful gradualism; and the very suddenness of recent upheavals, welcome as their initial impulse has been, carries its own warning. The range of possible outcomes remains wide, and not all the possibilities are comfortable.

This uncertainty has a particular bearing on the tasks of defence. Especially in the modern world of terrible weapons, defence provision is an insurance policy. Like most insurance policies, it has to be concerned mainly with situations in which matters do not go well.

Among the possible outcomes of political change the defence planner must therefore keep carefully in mind the darker ones; he must look to possible mistakes and failures in the political scene, rather than successes.

That does not require defence planners to be more pessimistic than others. We do not, for example, particularly expect that the democratic reformers in Eastern Europe will

fail; we certainly do not want them to fail. But the business of defence — the job given to it by voters and taxpayers is to be ready to give protection, and to help prevent war, if political developments do, against everyone's desires, take unwelcome paths.

Defence arrangements therefore cannot sensibly be made the leading agent of political change, the instrument through which Western nations express their best hopes and happiest aspirations. It makes no sense accordingly to throw away safeguards simply because we would like not to need them any more.

Defence arrangements nevertheless make a crucial positive contribution to our hopes. They can provide — indeed, they have long provided — a context of safety and confidence in which constructive political,



Mr King: Government will sustain adequate forces

The Defence White Paper published yesterday by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, made clear that the Government intends to maintain a cautious approach to defence strategy in spite of the "tremendous events" in Eastern Europe last year. The White Paper is notable this year for a detailed assessment of the problems and pitfalls confronting the Ministry of Defence in its examination of the "options for change". The essay, written by a senior member of the ministry's policy staff, is printed here in full.

economic and social forces can work successfully.

We cannot now know what past Soviet leaders would have done if the coercive use of military power had been an easy option for them in Western Europe; but we have known, ever since Nato was established to embody the key ideas of collective defence and the vital link between Europe and the United States, that they had no such easy option.

It would be strange to dismantle the structures which have ensured this just when the ideals of democratic freedom, whose growth they have guarded in the West, are reaping their harvest more widely. And the significance of this reaches further, in a new way. The established structures of East/West security may now have a fresh value for the Soviet Union too.

In most past ages of history a crumbling empire would

have been right to fear that healthy neighbours would be tempted to military exploitation and acquisition.

In today's circumstances, however, the systems which have stabilized the prevention of war in the age of nuclear weapons can give confidence to both sides that the processes of political change in Europe, however radical, must and will be played out without attempts at military solutions from opposing ideological sides.

That is an important aid to the chances that those processes will go forward peacefully and well.

Alongside all this, defence planners have to recall that despite all the changes, and despite the promises which President Gorbachev has made in evident good faith, the Soviet Union remains an enormous military power, with a massive nuclear

armoury. Its social and political structure is still very different from that of Western countries, with a long indoctrination of hostility to Western interests and values, a recent history of much international trouble-making, and with outstanding issues of friction with others around the world.

Much of this is changing for the better, but the changes, even if fully sustained, will at best take a long time.

Meanwhile, defence planners must stay alert to continuing realities. As a matter of professional duty, not of personal inclination or institutional bias, they must approach cautiously the significance of the remarkable events unleashed by President Gorbachev, especially since political shifts can happen — or be reversed — much faster than defence provision can be changed, run down or rebuilt.

This in no way means preferring the Cold War or the bleak world of the Iron Curtain. It is as evident and as welcome to defence planners as to everyone else that what we are witnessing is the breakthrough of freedom.

There are immense opportunities opening up, provided they are tackled with discipline and good sense, for new and better ways of managing international security and the place of defence provision in it. In particular, the arms

control agenda is wider, more radical and more promising than at any time within memory.

What has opened up these prospects is a fresh convergence of policy aims. For political and economic reasons President Gorbachev has decided largely to abandon the attempt at providing the Soviet Union with policy options through military superiority and to settle for what has always been the Western aim — the most stable and least costly system for the assured prevention of East/West war.

We may well be seeing the deepening realization on all sides that advancing technological possibilities — most obviously in the nuclear field, but not only there — have made the idea of war among major developed powers not just appalling but absurd.

In the long run the developing grasp and co-operative application of that truth may prove able to transform military structures and spending, at least in the East/West setting. Impatience will, however, be a poor and even dangerous guide along this road.

There may be vast further changes still to come in the international scene to which our security arrangements need to relate; but we cannot yet be sure that they will come, nor that they will stay, nor exactly what they will be. A

country with the United Kingdom's historic responsibilities and world-wide interests must moreover consider security, and the provision it needs, on a wider basis than the European context alone.

A policy of caution is however, not a policy of simply waiting and seeing. Successful long-term strategies for peace and security need both political and military components, and it is foolish to try to do without either.

We are engaged, with the help of the arms control agenda, in bringing about a major change in the mix for the East/West relationship; and the huge shift in Soviet outlook initiated by President Gorbachev is operating in the same direction.

A CFE (Conventional Forces in Europe) agreement on the lines now envisaged will make a dramatic contribution to this. In an unsettled scene defence planners have a prudent duty to look carefully, as we move forward, to ensure that we are stepping on to solid footholds.

But we are indeed moving forward in European security, and provided we do not rush and slip, but prepare the road wisely, we may indeed find ourselves able to move forward a very long way.

Bush's new role, page 14
Leading article, page 15

SOVIET DEFENCE

Sick economy an incentive to arms cuts

By Our Defence Correspondent

WHEN Mr Mikhail Gorbachev took on the post of Soviet leader, weapons production did not fall immediately, the White Paper said.

Mr Gorbachev had inherited a massive defence industrial complex. It was the most advanced sector of the economy and traditionally "cream-off" the best available personnel and materials.

Existing programmes continued and some major new commitments, such as the Ulyanovsk class of aircraft carrier, were started.

During 1988 a major review of defence production appeared to have been undertaken in response to improving international relations and public statements about the need for a more defensive military doctrine.

The deteriorating economic situation in the Soviet Union offered a powerful incentive to cut arms production.

In January 1989 Mr Gorbachev said that future weapons procurement would be reduced by about a fifth (by 1991). In recent months Soviet spokesmen had also promised dramatic reductions in the planned future supply of tanks (to be cut by half), combat aircraft, military helicopters and ammunition.

The Minister of Finance had also said that defence

spending in 1990 would be 8.2 per cent lower than in 1989, including a 14 per cent cut in spending on military research.

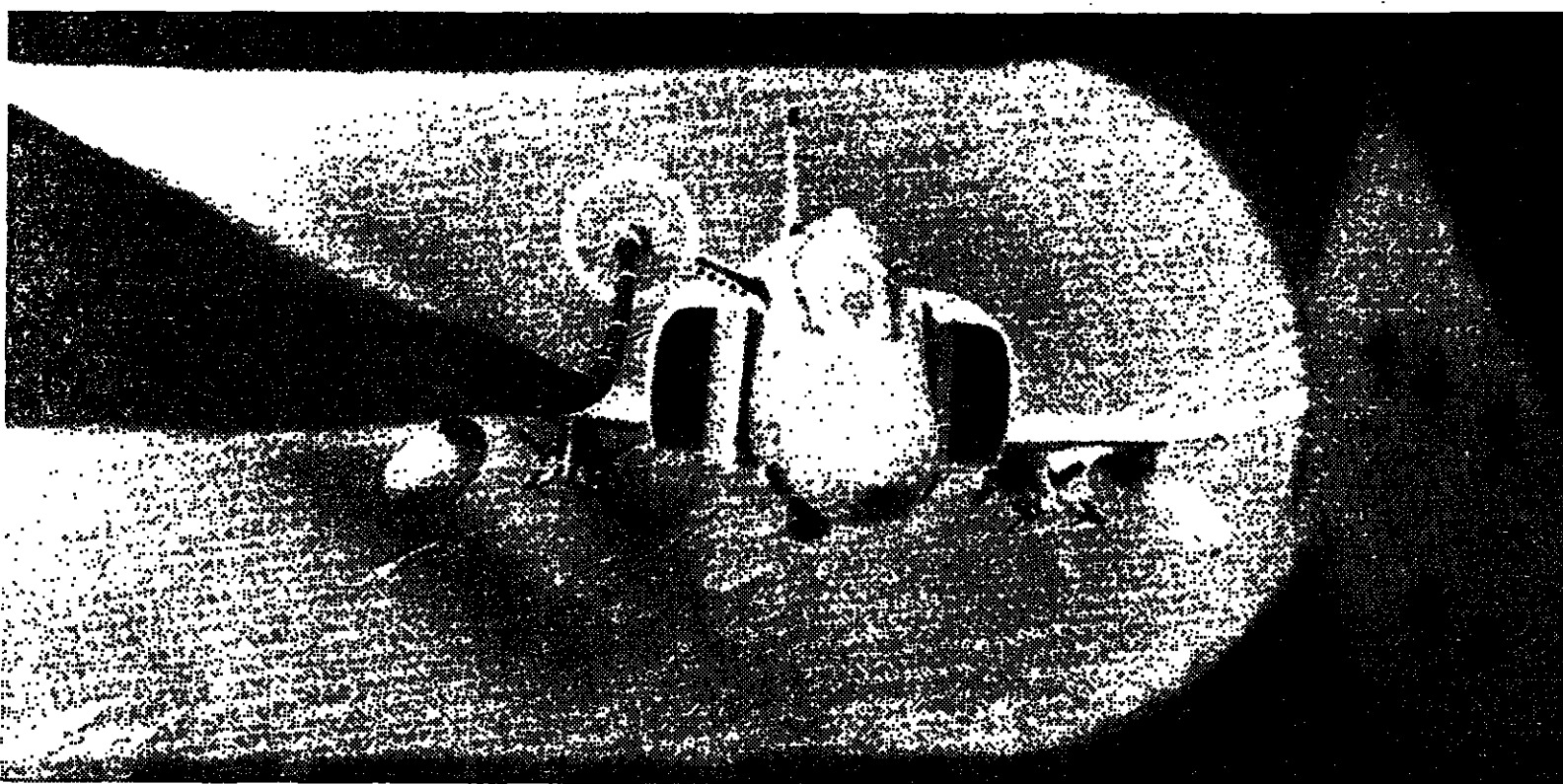
The White Paper said: "It is difficult to verify such claims but it is clear that Soviet tank production has fallen markedly from the levels of recent years."

There had also been a significant fall in the production of fighter aircraft while work on a nuclear-powered cruiser had been stopped to make way for merchant ship construction.

Such cuts were "from extremely high historic levels of output". More than 3,000 tanks and some 700 "fighters" had been produced each year in the mid-1980s.

As a result, most Soviet front-line units were already equipped with the most modern equipment. All but two of the 17 divisions in the Soviet Western Group of Forces were equipped with the advanced T-80 tank in place of the T-64.

The White Paper said: "Any reduction in Soviet weapons production is to be welcomed. But even after its partial conversion the Soviet defence complex will have the capability to manufacture weapons on a large scale, and this must remain a factor Nato needs to take into account in its defence strategy."



An RAF Phantom refuelling over East Falkland, photographed by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, during a visit to the islands

DEFENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Care for countryside 'a military objective'

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE Ministry of Defence is committed to minimizing any harm to the environment from military activities, the White Paper said.

"If our task in defence is the protection of our country, then surely we must care for its environment too," it said.

The disturbance caused by fighter aircraft on low-flying training missions and the possible effects of processes that are part of the defence nuclear industry "understandably cause concern".

The low-flying system was designed to minimize the impact by spreading the burden of low flying as widely as possible, while avoiding major built-up areas.

Aircraft normally had to fly at over 250 ft and always at a restricted, sub-sonic, speed. Low flying at weekends, on public holidays and after 11 pm was avoided wherever possible.

Running of engines on the ground was normally carried out under cover, during daylight hours and in the centre of airfields, wherever possible.

The ministry was also carrying out noise surveys at 40 military airfields and helicopter landing sites in Britain.

Field training imposed a particular responsibility on the Army to protect the environment. Soldiers were taught appropriate behaviour as part of their instruction on fieldcraft, and conservation was included in the training of officers who ran exercises.

In the field, all troops had to adhere to strict guidelines on conservation and environmental protection, such as the avoidance of young plantations and archaeological sites.

On Salisbury Plain, training was severely restricted at weekends and on public holidays, and battle simulation training did not take place within 400 metres (about 440 yards) of inhabited areas.

The White Paper said that the military nuclear industry operated under safety standards that were at least as stringent as those applying to civilian nuclear operators.

As well as protecting its own civilian and Service workforce, the ministry exercised rigorous control over discharges from its nuclear sites and from nuclear-powered submarines. Environmental monitoring was also carried out by the ministry and other departments in areas surrounding its sites and berths for nuclear-powered submarines.

The results consistently showed that the maximum radiation dose that could be received by any member of the public was much less than 1 per cent of the average dose from natural background radiation.

Storage of nuclear waste and of contaminated equipment, pending its safe disposal, was also subject to strict control and monitoring.

"We co-operated fully with the specialist independent medical committee which reported last June on the allegedly higher incidence of childhood leukaemia near Atomic Weapons Establishments," the White Paper said.

Although it concluded that further studies were needed to identify the cause, the committee judged that the discharges of radioactive materials from the sites at Aldermaston and Burghfield

were much too low to account for the observed incidence.

The White Paper added: "Our safety record is outstanding. We are, nevertheless, far from complacent."

"There are extensive emergency response arrangements to deal with accidents and these are frequently tested in exercises, many involving other government departments, local authorities and the civil emergency services."

The ministry was also one of the largest landowners in Britain. Because much of the defence estate had been protected from development and the effects of modern farming, it now supported some fine examples of indigenous habitats and included over 200 Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

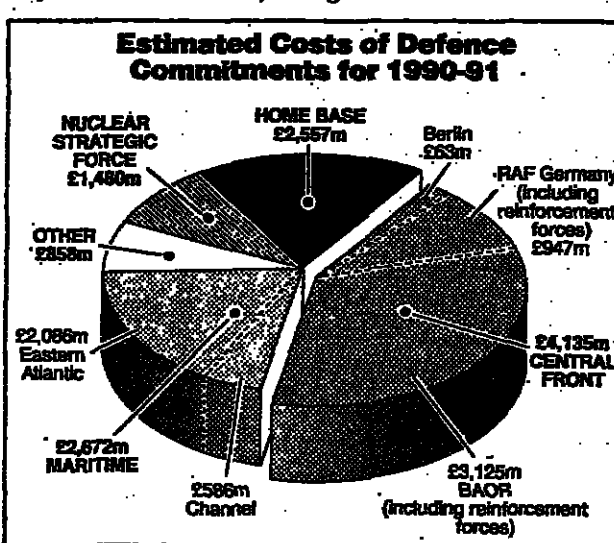
The use of pesticides and herbicides was kept to a minimum on all land managed by the ministry, although tenant farmers were not barred from using normal agricultural chemicals.

"A good example of the favourable habitats that have resulted is provided at Porton Down (the chemical defence establishment) which has one of the finest butterfly sites in the British Isles," the White Paper said.

The Services were being encouraged to find recycling outlets for items such as non-classified paper, scrap metals and waste oil. Much of the MOD stationery was already made of recycled paper.

A full-time conservation officer was employed for the whole defence estate.

Statement on the Defence Estimates (Stationery Office; £7)



PERSONNEL

Measures taken to hold on to staff

THE White Paper highlighted the increasing number of servicemen leaving the forces prematurely.

"The services can ill afford to lose these people, particularly when the number of young people available to enter employment is in decline," it said.

The proportion of officers who left the services through premature voluntary release (PVR) rose from 3.3 per cent in 1988 to 3.5 per cent in 1989. Those applying to leave rose from 3.7 per cent to 4.4 per cent. Among non-commissioned staff, PVRs rose from 3.4 per cent to 4.3 per cent and applications went up from 4.3 per cent to 5.6 per cent.

The White Paper said a wide range of measures was being taken to keep staff. More funds were being made available, for example, to refurbish married quarters and improve the quality of service life. Some ship cleaning and painting duties previously done by sailors would now be contracted out to improve job satisfaction and a greater number of voluntary transfers would be allowed between corps in the Army.

The White Paper said: "We also intend to reduce the turbulence to which service personnel are subject, for example by increasing tour lengths in the Army, by ensuring that naval personnel serving abroad spend a reasonable time in their home port and by giving some RAF officers the opportunity to serve consecutive tours in the same area."

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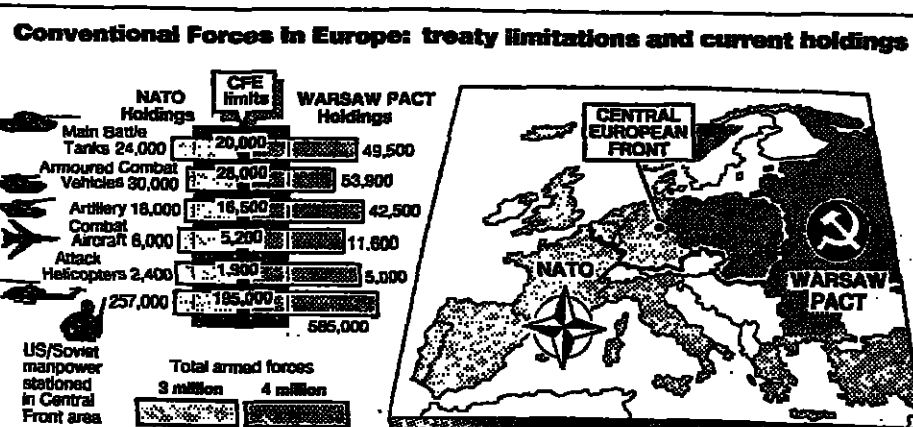
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ONE LOOK TELLS YOU IT'S DAKS



Poll tax rally 'barbarism' attacked by both sides

THE violence in central London on Saturday which accompanied the rally against the poll tax was condemned unreservedly by the Government and Opposition.

Mr David Waddington, Home Secretary, spoke of "savagery and barbarism". The cause of the trouble was "sheer wickedness", and he said MPs who urged people not to pay the poll tax should be ashamed of themselves.

He announced that two inquiries were to follow the disorder: a criminal investigation by a team of 100 officers, and an inquiry by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police to see what lessons could be learnt from the events.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary, said that the violence was "intolerable". There had been some of the most ferocious violence ever seen on the streets of London.

Mr Waddington said that he made his statement on the disorder with a sense of outrage which he was sure was shared by all MPs, who would have seen on television the acts of criminal violence and viciousness which no decent person could fail to condemn without reservation.

A total of 339 people had been arrested for public order and other criminal offences, including riot, affray and criminal damage. Of the 2,198 police officers on duty, 374 had been injured, 58 requiring hospital treatment.

Some of the 86 members of the public who had reported injuries had been innocent bystanders attacked by the mob.

Twenty of the 40 police horses used had been injured.

There had been about 250 reports of damage to property, but the full extent of it had yet to be assessed.

"All responsible MPs and the country at large will wish to

LONDON RIOT

condemn unreservedly the disgraceful criminal behaviour.

"All responsible members of society would wish to join me in paying tribute to the police for the courage and restraint which they showed in dealing with some of the most ferocious violence we have ever seen on the streets of London."

He added: "The police are now going to make every effort to bring to justice those who committed these appalling crimes."

There was plenty of evidence in the form of photographs and film, and he hoped that all sections of the press and television would co-operate to the full with the police investigation.

"The right of peaceful demonstration is one which I will always defend, but the scenes in our capital on Saturday had nothing whatever to do with peaceful demonstration."

Mr Hattersley: The Labour Party condemns without reservation or qualification the violence which took place in and around Trafalgar Square last Saturday (Labour cheers).

In a democratic society, no cause would justify such conduct. It was literally intolerable.

He offered the Opposition's sympathy to the police officers injured while trying to perform a near-impossible task of containing such rioters, and to the innocent bystanders who had been inevitable victims of the riot.

He endorsed the view that a violent mob should be met by a peaceful demonstration, but that a peaceful demonstration was not hijacked by the lawless minority.

It was inconceivable that such violence had been spontaneous, and he called for exemplary sentences for those convicted of criminal acts.

He understood that journalists, as well as him, copies of material circulated during the demonstration, one item of which had said: "Scrap the poll tax, but who needs an excuse for a fight with the Bill?"

It seemed to him that an individual offence had been committed which should result in prosecution.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) said that open meetings of crowds of people, exhorting to break the law, inevitably ended in violence. Those who had so exhorting to crowd on Saturday should be condemned by the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Waddington said: "It really does not help if MPs exhort people to break the law. Do they really expect those they seek to influence to draw neat distinctions between one sort of law breaking and another?"

"Do they really expect people they seek to influence to stop just trying to break the law and do not encourage them to break policemen's heads?"

"Any MP, and it is said that there are up to 30 of them, who has been exhorting people to break the law ought to be thoroughly ashamed."

Mr David Nellist (Coventry South, East, Lab) asked the Home Secretary to accept from him, and on behalf of the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation, that they unreservedly and utterly condemned arson and looting, and the provocations and violence of the anarchist elements.

Journalists had described the tactics of senior officers in Whitehall as having turned a fracas into a full-scale battle by ill-considered charges.

On Monday last week, people including him had asked on the march to be re-directed from Trafalgar Square to Hyde Park "because we knew that there would be more than 100,000 in London". The Secretary of State for the Environment could explain to an inquiry why that had been refused.

If the Prime Minister and other Conservative MPs wanted to take demonstrations off the streets of London, they should call a general election to let the people decide on the poll tax.

Mr Waddington: Here we go again. The same weasel words that we heard at the time of Ofgate, say Waddington - a condemnation of violence, swiftly followed by a backhand way of excusing those who perpetrated the violence.

Alan Ryan, page 14
Letters, page 15

Failure to bring charge attacked

CRITICISM at the lack of prosecution after the reported calls for the murder of Mr Salman Rushdie was voiced during Commons questions.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab) asked Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, to explain why no action had been taken against those making such calls. The law should apply to everyone, he said.

Sir Patrick said that the Director of Public Prosecutions had already publicly expressed his view that incitement to murder was always a grave offence, and had drawn the attention of chief constables throughout the country to that view, and also to the context in



Labour pledge on ERM entry

THE Labour leadership removed any lingering doubts yesterday that it would take Britain into the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System (Philip Webster writes).

With questions persisting over the Prime Minister's view of the right time to negotiate entry, Mr John Smith, the shadow Chancellor (above left, with Herr

Wolfgang Roth, the German Social Democrat spokesman) said at a meeting in London of the Labour Party/SPD commission on economic affairs that the case for negotiations was now overwhelming.

Labour leaders see ERM entry as central to their efforts to persuade the country at the next election that they have an anti-inflation strategy. Mr Smith said yesterday:

"We are ready to negotiate entry of the pound into the exchange-rate mechanism. We value the prospect of stable currencies and lower inflation that membership of the EMS can provide. And we recognize the political importance of constructively participating in progress towards greater European economic co-operation and convergence."

Unhappiness of childlessness 'part of Bill's background'

EMBRYO MEASURE

THE unhappiness that childlessness could cause to couples was one of the backgrounds that MPs must consider when they debated the Bill to regulate human fertilisation and experiments on human embryos, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, said in the Commons yesterday.

Moving the second reading of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill, he said that he hoped that there would be greater understanding and sympathy towards childless couples as a result of the Bill.

About one in ten of couples were infertile and more than that sought specialist help in their desire to have a family.

It was harder for such couples than for most to draw attention to their plight. It caused stress and strain and it was a legitimate scientific inquiry to enable them to satisfy their wholly worthy objective of having a family of their own.

The Bill was one of the most significant measures to be brought forward by a government for 20 years. It was complex and concerned fundamental matters.

The subject matter raised important legal, social, scientific and medical issues, but at the heart of the Bill were important ethical questions. The House was divided on those, but in the end it would have to make a judgement on them on behalf of the

community at large. The Bill was the product of a long period of public debate, and, while some had argued that that had been over-long, he did not share that view. With hindsight they could see that the Bill had benefited from the length of that debate.

There was general agreement about the need for statutory regulation. The Bill had a broad measure of public support.

When the Government had set up the Warnock committee in 1982, there was no public controversy, and it had been established because of ministers' view that serious problems were arising in embryo research.

Extensive public consultation had followed the report of the committee in 1984. Ministers would speak as such on most of the Bill, but ordinary party discipline would not apply on embryo research and some other matters which might come up. Conservative MPs and ministers would then have a free vote.

He had never made a secret of the fact that he supported properly regulated embryo research. By coincidence the same was true of Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Minister for Health, but when speaking on

the subject they would not be speaking with the authority of the Government.

Regardless of their personal view, however, ministers must provide factual information in a neutral and objective way.

In reply to a question, he said that if the Bill failed, the law would remain as it was in its present state. That was unsatisfactory. MPs were divided about the content of the Bill, but there was a broad range of opinion, including that of those in the medical and scientific community carrying out research, on the need for legislation.

Attempts to clone or create hybrids and other science fiction possibilities attracted severe penalties in the Bill.

Any idea of research into an embryo at the very earliest stages of life was totally repugnant to many. They believed that the law should prohibit that activity which affected the life of a third party, the human embryo, whose existence overrode other lesser rights.

"I do not share their view myself, but I respect them."

The argument in favour of research was also becoming well known. A broad medical and scientific consensus suggested that research should be permitted.

If Parliament did decide to prohibit, scientists who had given this country a leading position in this area would turn to other avenues of study or go abroad.

'Forced drug injections' for prisoners

JAIL RIOT

MR DAVID Waddington, the Home Secretary, announced that there would be a full inquiry into the "extremely serious" Strangeways riot as soon as more facts were known and it was possible to decide the precise nature of the inquiry.

He said the picture during this "dreadful incident" had been one of prisoners inflicting violence on other prisoners with some men being forcibly injected with drugs.

The Home Secretary also told Conservative MPs who wanted a higher priority to be given to ending prison overcrowding that there would have to be some rethinking of policy, though great importance would be attached to improving prison conditions.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the chief Opposition spokesman on Home Affairs, blamed the outbreak on government policy. He said that the violence was a direct result of the inadequate policies of the Home Secretary on prisons. The Home Office had failed miserably in its management of the prisons.

Mr Waddington said that his latest information was that some 119 prisoners had yet to surrender while 69 prisoners remained in hospital and other parts of the prison.

It was not possible to confirm stories that a number of prisoners were dead, but the possibility of fatalities could not be ruled out.

The general picture was of prisoners indulging in violence on other prisoners. Nine of the surrendering prisoners claimed to have been forcibly injected with drugs and eight admitted to having taken drugs voluntarily.

"This is clearly a dreadful incident, all the more serious in the light of all that we have been trying to do to reduce the pressure on the prison system and improve conditions."

The prison population nationally was now over 2,100 lower than at the corresponding time last year and spending on the prison service had risen by 20 per cent in real terms in the past year.

"Sadly, the short-term consequences of this incident will be to worsen conditions elsewhere just when real improvements were being made. The combined effect of our policies on criminal justice and the prison building programme."

There would be a thorough inquiry into this extremely serious incident. "Because the incident is not yet concluded I do not believe that the precise nature of the inquiry or who should lead it should be determined now."

Mr Hattersley said that the Chief Inspector of Prisons,

while praising work at the prison, had also said that the treatment of prisoners left much to be desired and that the buildings were awful.

Many prisoners were three to a cell in cells the Victorians intended to be occupied by only one person. Prisoners were confined to the cells, except for 11 hours a week. They were allowed one shower and one change of clothing a week and often that was not possible. Men who were three to a cell were having to sleep out.

"If you treat men like animals, we ought not to be surprised if they behave like animals."

Were messages passed to the governor that an outbreak was likely at the weekend? Were there demonstrations earlier in the week and should not these have been seen as a sign of what was to come? Were prisoners who had appeared in court kept in prison because of the fear of disturbances?

Mr Waddington said Mr Hattersley had not uttered a word of condemnation of the prisoners who had indulged in an orgy of violence against fellow inmates.

The Government's policies had resulted in the best community service regulations in the world and had helped to bring about a big reduction in the prison population over the past two years. Prison conditions left much to be desired. Many of the prisons were built in the nineteenth century, but it was problem Labour had done nothing about.

Mr Robert Litherland (Manchester Central, Lab) said that officials must have known that Strangeways Prison was a powder keg. Those who spoke of trouble had been proved right and the Home Office stood accused of criminal negligence.

Sir Fergus Montgomery (Aldershot and Sale, C) said that for all the Government was doing it might have to do more about these Victorian prisons. Perhaps ministers would have to give it a still higher priority, as the Home Secretary said that 24 of 28 new prison projects were either built, started or in the design stage. Last year the Government had been able to announce a switch of resources to refurbishment. Great importance was attached to getting rid of slopping out as soon as possible. What had happened would make that more difficult to achieve.

Leading article, page 15

CPS gets more lawyers

Recruitment of lawyers to the Crown Prosecution Service had improved steadily, and the number had risen from 1,200 in 1986 to just under 1,600 today, Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, said during Commons questions.

There was an overall shortage of lawyers of about 20 per cent, partly due to the complement being increased by 25 per cent.

Recent pay improvements, with a promising legal training scheme, would all improve the ability of the service to recruit and retain able lawyers.

New start for Mint

The Royal Mint became an executive agency yesterday under the Government's "next steps initiative" and its chief executive will be Mr A.D. Garrett, the deputy master of the Mint, Mr Richard Ryder, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said in a Commons written reply.

As an agency, the mint will have greater management freedom to develop its thriving business on sound commercial lines, he said.

Defence for tagging

Although trials of electronic monitoring of alleged offenders (tagging) has yet to be evaluated fully, it is clear that the technology works and it is extremely effective in detecting any violations of bail conditions, however, said, Mr John Patten, Minister of State, Home Office, said in a Commons written reply.

£85m in aid for India

British gross bilateral aid to India in the past financial year amounted to about £85 million, including £14 million from the Commonwealth Development Corporation, Mrs Lynne Chalker, Minister for Overseas Development, said in a written reply. It continued to be the largest British bilateral aid programme, she said.

Benefit cash

The uprating of housing benefit and community charge benefit personal allowances and premiums, which take effect this month, will take spending on those benefits to more than £6.3 billion in the 1990-91 financial year, Mrs Gillian Shepherd, Under Secretary of State for Social Security, said in a Commons written reply.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Defence; Prime Minister; Social Security Bill; conclusion of remaining stages. Lords (2.30): National Health Service and Community Care Bill, second reading.

Agency for Cabinet Office

CIVIL SERVICE

THE Occupational Health Service yesterday became the second executive agency within the Cabinet Office.

The announcement of its establishment as an agency was made in a Commons written reply by Mr Richard Lacey, Minister for the Civil Service. He said that the job of the Occupational Health Service was to promote the health and safety of civil servants at work.

Government departments, like other employers, had to prevent or deal with the distinctive health problems that affected their staff by reason of their work or workplace, not only to meet their legal obligations, but also to reap the benefits of a fit, productive and well motivated organization.

"The service therefore has a key role to play in supporting management in government departments and in executive agencies. It provides expert advice on the statutory responsibilities of employers and on all aspects of occupational health. And it offers supporting services like medical examinations; training in first aid, and in the handling of hazardous substances and in the implications of legal changes; and tailor-made information and advice for civil servants working abroad."

"This relatively new service has already risen to the challenge of change, and is admirably fitted to perform even better as an executive agency. It carries out well defined executive functions; it recovers its full costs from charges to customer departments, who may obtain services elsewhere where they see this as providing better value for money; and it is responsive to customer demand, designing new services as required to meet changing priorities on the job."

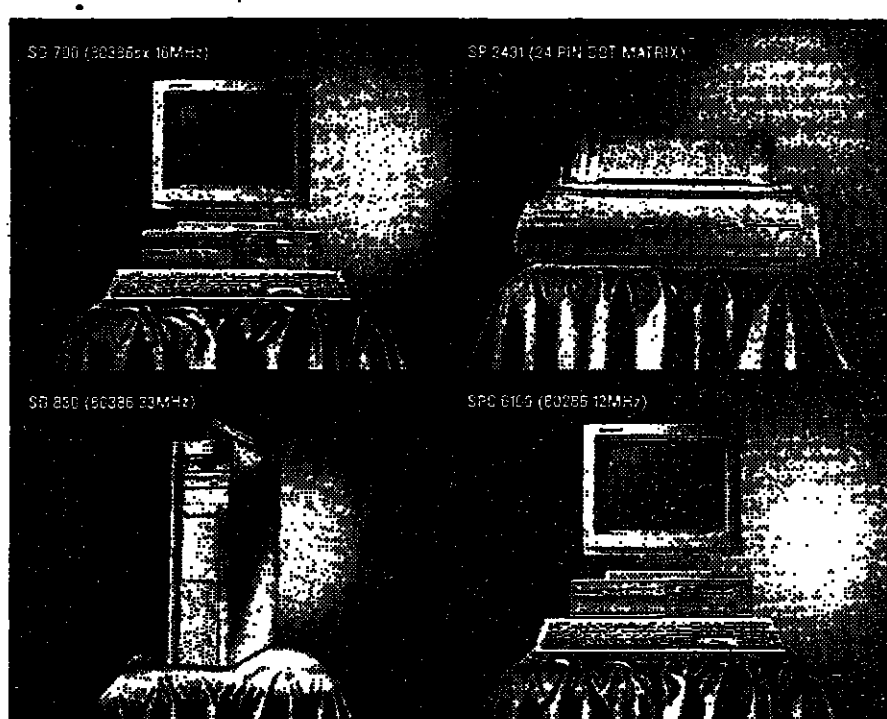
SALMAN RUSHDIE

which it had been expressed - that of the Salman Rushdie affair.

Mr Michael Latham (Rutland and Melton, C) said he hoped that there had been no question of a decision being taken purely on the ground of political policy.

Sir Patrick said that a decision had been taken on the basis that there was insufficient evidence of an admissible nature to give rise to a reasonable prospect of a conviction. "That is the test that the crown prosecutor imposes."

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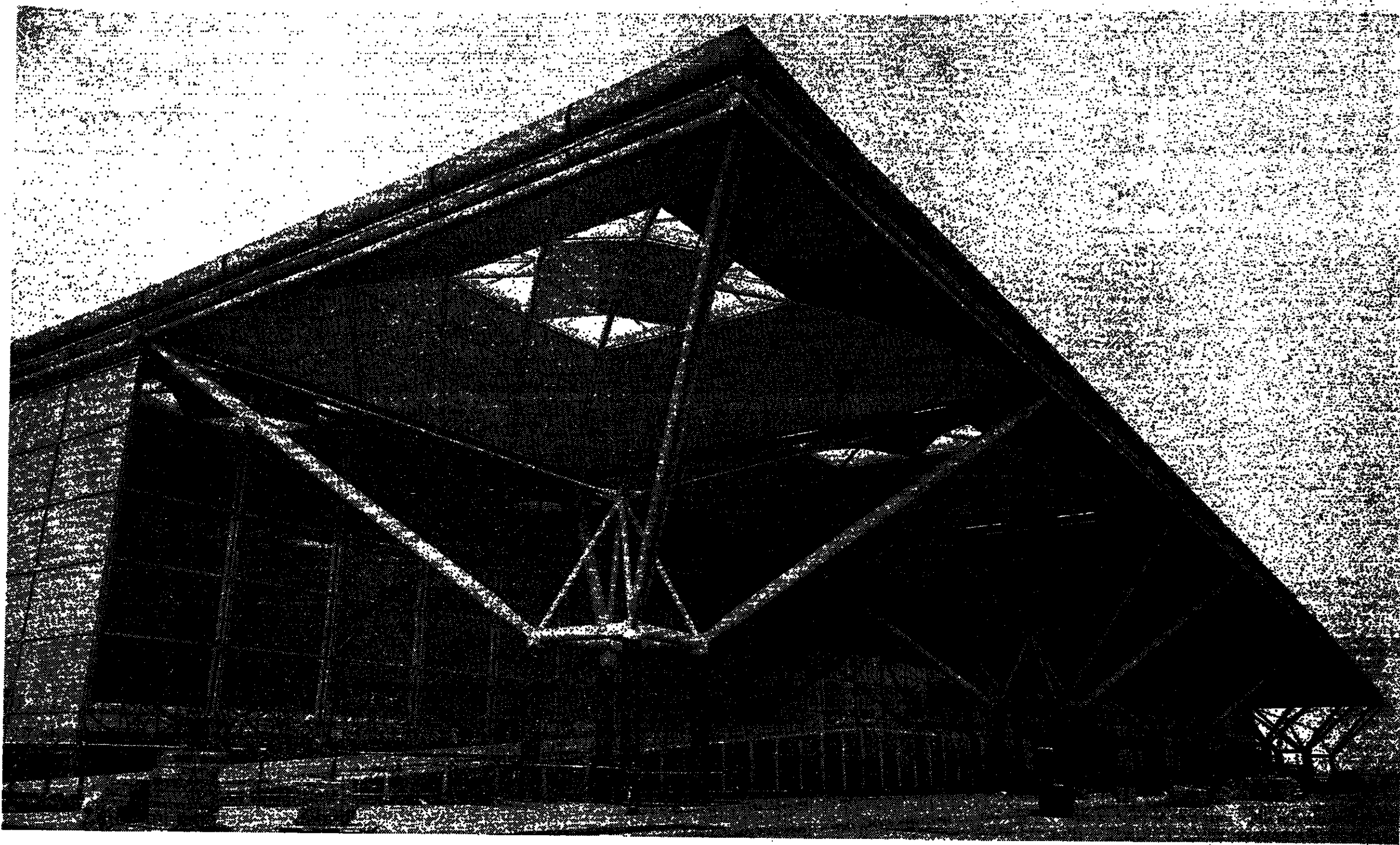
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Mafia's
top
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Thousands flee Delhi offensive in Kashmir

From Christopher Thomas, Delhi

THE Indian Government has launched a fierce drive against Muslim secessionists in the Kashmir valley as tens of thousands of Hindus flee to ill-equipped makeshift refugee centres.

The clampdown comes amid fears that violence will escalate now that snows are melting in mountain passes, giving the militants greater freedom of movement.

Large numbers of Muslims are also fleeing from the valley, where basic essentials are running out. Violence and bad weather have disrupted the critical 200-mile national highway between Srinagar, the valley's capital, and the Kashmir town of Jammu.

The lifetime is normally

Mafia's top hit man caught

From Richard Bassett, Rome

THE Mafia's top assassin, Giuseppe Lucchese, allegedly responsible for at least 37 deaths including that of Gianni Carlo Alberto, Dalla Chiesa of the Carabinieri, has been arrested in Sicily.

His arrest led yesterday to at least six other key Mafia criminals being scrutinized by the authorities in Sicily.

Lucchese, aged 29, who is known and feared throughout the Italian underworld as "Little Lucchi" on account of his diminutive stature, was arrested while leaving his girlfriend's flat near Palermo. Lucchese's victims are said to have included numerous police chiefs sent by Rome on what turned out to be suicide missions to deal with the Mafia.

He was also responsible, the authorities claimed yesterday, for the murders of several members of rival Mafia clans. In his flat, police found what they described as the "tools of his trade": a .38 pistol and a balacava helmet. The serial number of the pistol had been carefully scratched off although the police said yesterday that they felt it was the weapon used to murder a police chief in Sicily last year.

There was also a large sum of money, estimated to be about 20 million lire (\$9,000) wrapped in old newspapers.

Sought since 1982, Lucchese's arrest appears to have been a triumph for the agents who have spent the past few weeks interrogating one of the Mafia's former laboratory experts, Marino Manioia.

Signor Manioia was arrested recently for running the Mafia's principal heroin refinery in Sicily.

He appears to have given revealing details about his employers who, since his arrest, have attempted repeatedly to shoot him.

Although strict security has enabled him to escape these attempts, the Mafia have nonetheless been able to assassinate Signor Manioia's brother, mother and aunt in recent weeks in an attempt to silence him.

Signor Manioia, by helping in the arrest of "Little Lucchi", may have guaranteed his own life for a little longer, though those who understand the ways of the Mafia say that his life is not "worth a lira."

packed with supply lorries, but it is now almost empty. The valley depends on airlifts but they, too, have been disrupted by bad weather. Vegetables, meat, edible oils, bread, milk, medicines, paraffin and cooking gas are becoming scarce.

Kashmiri traders are refusing to order new stocks, as supplies run out, fearing that they will not be able to sell them because of repeated curfews and increasing violence. Large numbers of wholesalers and shopkeepers have closed down.

Mr Jagmohan, Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, held talks yesterday with Mr V.P. Singh, the Prime Minister, in Delhi on security. He told him that an intensive search was under way to find 12 subversives who escaped from the central jail in Srinagar a week ago.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has been refused permission by the Indian Government to visit the Kashmir valley, presumably because it wants to avoid any suggestion of internationalizing the crisis.

It is not known how many prisoners are held by security forces in Kashmir, or under what conditions. Families complain that they are denied visiting rights.

Most of the Hindus fleeing the valley are moving into "migrant centres", as they are being called, in Jammu, which is predominantly Hindu.

The centres are proving to be rich feeding grounds for Hindu fundamentalists. The right-wing Hindu organization, the Bharatiya Janata Party, is particularly active among the migrants.

Its main message is that Muslim militants must be fought to the death to stop Kashmir breaking away from India—a sentiment backed in the teeming Hindu heartland of northern India, where the BJP's popularity is surging.

Mr L.K. Advani, the BJP's president, said on a visit to migrant centres in Jammu that rehabilitation of more than 25,000 families that had left the valley was "inadequate, callous and insensitive". But he praised the Government's handling of the crisis, saying there had been "no vacillation" in dealing with subversives.

Security forces claim to have killed a string of militant leaders. According to official figures, 77 subversives were arrested and 20 killed over the weekend.

Srinagar was under curfew all day yesterday as militants issued calls for demonstrations from the loudspeakers of mosques throughout the city.

Senior Indian military officials acknowledge that troop levels have been increased substantially along the border. They insist that they do not foresee any imminent danger of military clashes with Pakistan, although they do acknowledge that tensions could rise rapidly as the mountain snows melt.

There are indications that improved weather is resulting in increased arms trafficking across the dividing line as mountain passes become negotiable. Security forces have imposed night curfews in the region.

Miss Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's Prime Minister, has opened a fund for the "welfare and relief of Kashmiris". A government announcement said proceeds from domestic and international donors would be handled by the State Bank of Pakistan.

Toying with firepower in Peking



A CHINESE boy with his parents taking mock aim with his toy gun in Peking's Tiananmen Square yesterday. People were allowed back into the square in an easing of security imposed after pro-democracy demonstrations ended in bloodshed last year (Catherine Sampson writes). But security forces continued to cordon off the memorial there, a symbol of last year's protests.

Strike over crackdown in Nepal

Kathmandu

A GENERAL strike closed shops and halted all but emergency medical services as 10,000 people demonstrated yesterday against a crackdown on a democracy movement in Nepal.

The stoppage was called by the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, which has led a six-week campaign against Nepal's partyless system of elected councils, or panchayats.

Most shops in the Kathmandu valley were shuttered yesterday to protest against alleged police excesses in Lalitpur over the weekend. Officers prevented about 10,000 people from marching into Kathmandu yesterday from Lalitpur, six miles north-west of the capital.

March organizers said they would hold a rally in Lalitpur later.

Two people died in clashes with police in the town on Friday and Saturday, officials said. At least 12 people have died and hundreds have been arrested since the democracy campaign began in mid-February.

The Nepal Medical Association said most of its 2,300 doctors refused to perform routine medical duties for the second day on Monday in protest at the detention of 15 of their colleagues.

King Birendra's Government has taken a hard line against the democracy movement. The monarch dismissed nine ministers on Sunday because they opposed the crackdown.

The Government says the panchayat system is democratic and the pro-democracy movement has been hijacked by communist extremists. (Reuters)

Tigers foster an uneasy truce with Premadasa

From James Pringle, Jaffna, Sri Lanka

WHEN the Portuguese surrendered this northern Sri Lankan city to the Dutch after a long siege more than 330 years ago, they insisted on marching out of the fort with their battle standards flying.

However, when, last month, the remaining soldiers of the Indian peace-keeping force left Jaffna, in the heartland of Sri Lanka's minority Tamil community, they left the same fort by helicopter, and so unobtrusively that few knew they had gone.

On their arrival almost three years ago, they had been garlanded with bouquets. But they left with no farewell, unaccompanied by the Tamils they had ostensibly come to protect.

The peace force had engaged the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the leading — and most ruthless — Tamil guerrilla force in a bloody war of attrition and 1,155 Indian soldiers had died.

"The average Tamil does not feel an affinity with India," an elderly Tamil shopkeeper here noted. "There may have been that feeling at one time, but the experience with the peace-keeping force ended it."

Now, one company of Sri Lankan troops holds out in the battered fort. The fort and the Palaly air base beyond the town, are the only places in the Jaffna peninsula where the Sri Lankan flag is still flying.

Sinhalese soldiers can go out by day. At night, they stay in. "It's tough here — no family, no girlfriends," a trooper based at the fort lamented in a letter to his mother.

Elsewhere in this northern city, the red, yellow and black flag of the Tamil Tigers prevails. They have fought for the establishment of a separate Tamil state since anti-Tamil riots erupted in Colombo, the capital, in 1983.

In past months, the Tigers have moved into the vacuum left by the Indian troops, who took with them the "quiescent" Tamil militia they had raised, the so-called Tamil National Army. Now the town, or what is left of it, belongs to them.

The administrative centre of Jaffna, with its shell-pocked and abandoned blocks of bullet-riddled flats, looks like parts of Beirut. The town hall

is shattered, destroyed in mid-1987 by Sri Lankan shelling from the fort during the attack that prompted the Indian intervention.

In the area beyond the Sri Lankan airbase, which is still in the hands of the Colombo Government, buildings have been levelled to the ground.

Yet a tentative trust of sorts has been established between the Tigers, who have violently eliminated all other Tamil opposition over the years, and the Sri Lankan Government of President Premadasa.

President Premadasa came to power early last year as an unrelenting critic of India's role in the Tamil separatist struggle for Tamil Eelam (an independent homeland) and called for the departure of the peace-keeping force.

He has been talking to the Tamil leadership for the past year and has introduced legislation aimed at eliminating anti-Tamil discrimination.

There are two million Tamils in Sri Lanka, most of them Hindus, unlike the majority of

native for Eelam, and when an alternative is given to us, we will consider it," Mr Prabhakaran said in an apparent gesture of conciliation.

Colombo has offered to integrate up to 10,000 Tigers into the Sri Lankan Army and police before elections for a 73-member North-Eastern Provincial council, likely to be dominated by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, are held within the next few months.

Under this formula, the separate state of Tamil Eelam will not be accomplished in fact but it will be approximated: in effect the Tamils will rule themselves within the framework of the Sri Lankan state, possibly in a kind of federation.

However, the heavily armed guerrillas still seem reluctant to surrender their weapons — which they had undertaken to do once the Indian peace-keeping force had left.

Yet people in Jaffna are weary of war and fighting, as are most Sri Lankans. Most people here say they have lost family members in the conflict. Many are maimed; the Jaffra artificial limb workshop here has issued 360 limbs to wounded fighters.

"A majority of Tamils live outside the North and there is not a fierce desire among them for a separate homeland," one newspaper editor in Colombo said recently. "The Tigers know that the people in Jaffna are tired of war."

As a local Tiger official here said: "Premadasa appears to be a man we can deal with."

Sinhalese, who are Buddhist. Accordingly, Colombo has made Tamil an official language, and Tamils and other ethnic groups are to be allotted a quota of government appointments.

The result is the present uncertain calm in Jaffna, and guarded optimism among local people that the Tamil Tigers may make their peace with the Premadasa Government, which has recently crushed the extremist Sinhalese Peoples' Liberation Front in southern Sri Lanka.

This was indicated at a press conference at the weekend by Mr Velupillai Prabhakaran, the Tamil Tiger chief, just emerged from his jungle headquarters after two years. "So far the Government has not offered a substantial alter-

ation," he said. "We are still waiting for a concrete proposal."

Defence lawyers called the trial a test case for freedom of speech in Israel, and Rabbi Kahane has won unexpected support from civil libertarians

who argue that the sedition law is too broad and vague.

The rabbi, who was born in the United States and is head of the anti-Arab Kach movement, said he did not regret his July 7 speech.

"I admit to the words, and I would say them again at another rally," he said outside the courtroom in Israeli-annexed Arab east Jerusalem.

Only about 20 Kahane followers and journalists attended the trial. Mr Kahane, wearing a black suit and black skull cap, sat quietly during the four-hour hearing, occasionally shaking hands with supporters and browsing through his appointment book.

Mr Kahane, aged 57, is the first Israeli to be prosecuted under the sedition law in civil court, a defence lawyer said.

In the military court, the charge was brought three times in the 1950s. The law, from the time of the British Mandate over Palestine, defines sedition as including speech that promotes "feelings of ill-will and enmity among different sectors of the population."

The sedition law has been criticized by civil rights advocates.

"The use of the sedition law, which really has no bounds and no safeguards, is potentially dangerous to freedom of speech," the association's legal director, Mr Joshua Schoffman, said yesterday. He declined to comment directly on the Kahane case.

Rabbi Kahane served as a member of Israel's Parliament for four years, but was barred from running for re-election in 1988 after legislators passed a law banning racist parties. (AP)

One-party state in Zimbabwe put on sidelines

From Jan Raath, Harare

CHANCES that a one-party state will be established in Zimbabwe have dramatically receded, according to a wide political consensus, which sees the issue now relegated to the sidelines of national politics.

Despite the crushing defeat of opposition parties in last week's elections, which have so far given Mr Robert Mugabe, the President-elect, and his Zanu (PF) Party 116 out of the 120 seats in Parliament, it is believed that the existence of opposition parties will remain protected by constitutional guarantees of freedom of political association — at least for the foreseeable future.

Yesterday, the pro-government *Herald*, Zimbabwe's main daily newspaper, published a report of a press conference given by Mr Mugabe shortly after the election results were announced, but significantly made no reference to his statement that he regarded the result as a mandate to introduce a one-party state.

The previous night, the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, which is state-controlled, cut this part of Mr Mugabe's remarks from its main evening television news bulletin.

The exclusion is seen as deliberate. Local journalists are frequently censored in reporting controversial remarks by Mr Mugabe and other members of the ruling party hierarchy by a quiet word from senior officials of Mr Mugabe's office. The foreign press is left unfettered.

Mr Mugabe declared on Sunday that the electorate had approved the party's policies, including the introduction of a one-party state, as set out in its election manifesto.

The term does not however, appear anywhere in the manifesto, which instead rather vaguely refers to "national unity". A one-party state is, however, given in the party's constitution as one of its aims. The reference was inserted at the party congress in December after what sources called "bulldozing tactics" by Mr Mugabe. No vote was taken.

Pitted against a one-party state is much of Mr Mugabe's central committee, with the entire block of former members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's former opposition Zapu party implacably opposed. As far as can be gauged, an overwhelming spectrum of the population of 10 million also opposes one-party rule.

In the Chenjeri Purchase Area last week, one of the more remote corners of the country, a group of about a dozen peasant farmers with mud-spattered bare feet and ragged overalls gave their opinion of what Mr Mugabe calls "democratic centralism". It was a resounding "no", despite the potentially intimidating presence of a member of the Central Intelligence Organization and several party apparatchiks.

"If we have a one-party state we will not be in a position to choose the person

we want," one of the farmers said. "People now know they have chosen of their own will. If it is introduced, they will not be able to vote for someone they want; but now, if he is no good, we can kick him out."

Mr Sean Hundermark, the white MP who was overwhelmingly elected by the 42,000 voters in the Chenjeri constituency, said that "99 per cent" of those in the area felt the same. "I am personally opposed to it, but if the people want it, I will back them," he said.

It would be a mistake, a veteran black journalist here commented, to regard Zimbabwe's huge peasant population as "a bunch of idiot sheep willing to be taken to the slaughter, illiterate and uneducated as many of them are".

The fall of Eastern Europe's communist governments last year has left Mr Mugabe with few "fraternal" international relationships, with the exception of North Korea and, to a lesser extent, China.

Closer to home, President Chissano of Mozambique, his most intimate ally, has recently abolished the reference to Marxism-Leninism in the ruling Frelimo Party constitution, publishing last January a draft constitution which, for the first time, made provision for "freedom of association."

In February the Socialist Government of President Mengistu in Ethiopia, another source of inspiration for Mr Mugabe's political theories, announced its abandonment of socialism and left the door open for increased participation by other parties.

In Angola, another war-ravaged state, where the existence of parties other than the ruling organization has become the crux of peace negotiations between the ruling MPLA and Dr Jonas Savimbi's rebel Unita movement, the one-party state appears doomed.

"Ask anyone in the townships, they know all about what happened in Eastern Europe," commented an African diplomat here.

"Mugabe wants a one-party state very badly, but he knows he will be the one walking backwards when the rest of the world is going the other way, or straining to do so."

Four die in Peru poll violence

Lima — A group of guerrillas suspected of being members of the left-wing Maoist Shining Path movement killed four people and bombed political party offices throughout Peru at the weekend in the run up to this week's general elections.

Among those killed was a boy, aged nine, in Tacna, and two employees of the state bank in Huaraz.

Señor Mario Vargas Llosa, the presidential candidate of the centre right holds a big lead in the opinion polls. Voters will also elect congressmen and regional councillors. (Reuters)

Papandreou under attack

Athens — Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, the New Democracy Party leader, yesterday accused his socialist opponent of backing organized violence to try to stop his party winning next Sunday's general election.

"Andreas Papandreou (the former socialist Prime Minister) and his supporters are trying with all legitimate and illegitimate means — even violence — to block the rise of New Democracy to power," he said. (AP)

Storms ravage Bangladesh

Dhaka — Storms cut a path of destruction across southern Bangladesh, killing at least 45 people, injuring 1,000 and making many homeless, officials said yesterday (Ahmed Fazi writes).

At least seven people died in Dhaka and in the nearby town of Manikganj after being struck by lightning, and 10 others drowned when a boat capsized in the Meghna river on Sunday. Waves washed away 28 people from two islands.

Paris offers free theatre tickets

Paris — From today for three days M Jacques Chirac, the Mayor of Paris, will give away a theatre ticket for every one sold in an attempt to lure people back to the capital's 115 theatres.

Paris has 100,000 theatre seats, but attendance has plummeted, partly because of the increasing popularity of television and the cinema and the high price of theatre tickets. (AP)

Warhol's brother spills the beans about stardom

From James Bone, New York

ANDY Warhol would love it. A homespun farmer from Pennsylvania parades a portrait of a can of Heinz Baked Beans — a homage to the pop artist's Campbell's Soup can. Unlike Warhol's 1960s classic, a silk screen, the work is painted in oil, erratically at best. "I call it Post-Pop," the man says. "It's after Andy."

But that is not all that would have delighted Warhol. The portly grandfather of nine, who took up painting only last year after retiring as a scrap metal merchant and moving to a farm, is Paul Warhol, Andy's big brother. "It would be very amusing for Andy to know that I am doing this," he says.

Mr Warhol's first one-man exhibit is now showing at the Hartwell Gallery in Pittsburgh, and at 67 years the eldest of the three Warhol brothers (Andy dropped the final "a") he is enjoying, in his brother's immortal words, his 15 minutes of fame. The opening attracted 2,200 Warhol groupies, and by the end of it Mr Warhol was autograph-

ing real-life Heinz Beans cans for new fans. Of his instant celebrity, he says: "I think it has lasted more than 15 minutes. Maybe I was extra-special and Andy gave me more time."

The two brothers could scarcely be more different. Warhol was gaunt and aloof, a celebrity sociologist and an artistic ironist. Throughout Manhattan, Warhol lookalikes still abound, imitating his black clothing and shock of platinum blond hair.

Mr Warhol is down-to-earth and engaging, with a winning smile, but with no more "cool" than one would expect of a Middle American farmer. His preferred dress is white dungarees in the summer, blue in the winter. His trademark, a California Angels' baseball cap.

"Andy liked celebrity living," he says. "I am just the opposite. I like to be secluded. I like farm life."

The three Warhol brothers, Paul, John and Andy, were raised in Pittsburgh during the years of the Great

Depression. Their parents were Czech immigrants who barely spoke English. Andy was the kid brother, six years younger than Paul, and sickly. "He wasn't healthy enough to participate in sports like my other brother and me," says Mr Warhol. "He was the type who would do a lot of reading, movies, drawing, painting."

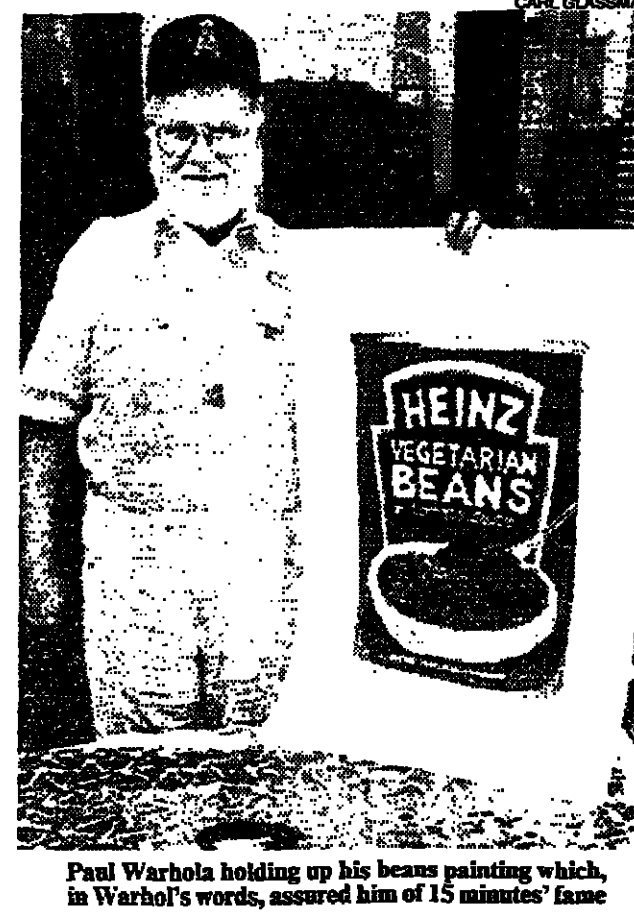
The older brothers would sketch with Warhol, they bought him crayons and a camera, and took him to the local art museum. They painted Easter eggs together. But Paul had to leave school and begin work in a steel mill at the age of 18 because their father, a construction worker, fell ill and died. Then Paul joined the Navy.

Andy went on to art school at the nearby Carnegie Institute of Technology. The precocious child became a precocious student, and in 1949 moved to New York to begin a career as a commercial artist. "I supported the family, and got a job," Mr Warhol recalls. "I did all kind of things. It was pretty hard."

Andy missed all that. "There is some conflict between Mr Warhol's memory of his relationship with his fabulously successful brother when he lived in Manhattan, and the account given in glimpses in Warhol's *Diaries* published last year.

Warhol only twice visited his brother in Pittsburgh, both times while he was there on other business. Warhol's diary entry for May 17, 1984 reads, "...in walks my brother who I haven't seen in 20 years, Paul." Mr Warhol says he suspects parts of the diary are "fabricated".

Mr Warhol's painting career began last year when an old friend visited his farm and asked to buy his five original Warhols. "I told him the closest he would come to an Andy Warhol was if Andy's brother painted it," Mr Warhol recalls. "He said, 'Could you?'. I said, 'What do you want me to paint? I'm not going to paint a Campbell's Soup can. That was Andy's trademark. I'll paint you a Heinz Beans can'."



Paul Warhol holding up his beans painting which, in Warhol's words, assured him of 15 minutes' fame

US fungicide bar puts £1.5bn wine imports at risk

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

As the United States tests it way through more than 200 wines from around the world, Europe's wine producing nations are holding their breath and praying that exports worth \$1.5 billion a year are not about to be knocked sideways.

Five weeks ago, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) conducted a routine test on an Italian Asti Spumante wine. They discovered traces of a fungicide called procymidone. This is

widely used in almost every wine producing country in the world, but has never been authorized in America. As a result, the Asti Spumante shipment was barred.

The FDA, its suspicions alerted, then called for 205 wines from 21 countries to be submitted for testing. Of the 116 so far sampled, 11 have proved to contain at least 0.02 parts per million of procymidone: three from Italy and eight from France.

The three Italian wines were

Asti Spumante Gianelli, Tosti and Collinetta, and the eight French included a red Louis Jadot, a Beaujolais La Chamville and two batches of Beaujolais BG St Louis. Their producers have been, or will be, told to export no more of the wine to the US unless it is first tested by independent laboratories in Europe.

France exports wine worth \$600 million a year to the US, Italy about \$230 million worth, and West Germany \$80 million. Diplomats from those countries yesterday expressed irritation and anger.

They were angry with the fungicide's Japanese manufacturer, the Sumitomo Chemical Company, for having failed to obtain US authorization.

The irritation is directed at the US, which is rejecting these wines when the EC permits wines containing up to five parts per million of the fungicide. "It's a stupid technical question," M. Oliver Dubuquoy, the French agricultural attaché, said. Mr. William Grigg, a spokesman for the FDA, said the problem was not that the fungicide was necessarily a health hazard, just that it had not been authorized.

The EC has made informal representations to both the FDA and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

According to Mr. John McCarthy of the US National Agricultural Chemicals Association, the fungicide is "non-toxic... you'd die from the wine before you could get enough to hurt you."

In the Italian press and elsewhere, there are mutterings that it is a sinister US plot to promote the consumption of Californian and other domestically-produced wines. Not so, said Mr. Grigg. "This was just a chance finding and we had to follow up on it."

According to the EC official, the FDA was under pressure from Congress to increase its testing of foodstuffs for residues. "It had to do something, and it's always better to do it on the back of imported products," he observed wryly.

Leading article, page 15

A wedding saga of war and peace



Wearing flak jackets over their wedding outfits, Mr. Salim Abu Samra and Miss Rita Zghelb took advantage of a lull in the fighting by rival Christian militias in Lebanon and got married yesterday in Zalka, north of Beirut

Iraq's chemical arsenal

By Michael Knipe, Diplomatic Correspondent

Israel clearly in Saddam's sights

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein of Iraq's boast of his country's chemical weapons capacity is particularly ominous coming in the wake of the disclosure by United States intelligence sources last week that Baghdad has established a battery of missile launchers near the western border with Syria which have both Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in range.

This is the first time that Iraq has constructed a permanent missile launching site on its western flank, and clearly indicates that any military strike, such as that by Israel in 1981 against the Osirak nuclear reactor, would risk immediate and devastating retaliation.

Iraq has a relatively advanced chemical weapons capability and has shown no compunction in using it. But, while this capability is well known, the significance of President Saddam's disclosure is that the country can now manufacture binary weapons,

which are safer to handle, since they have two components, each relatively harmless until they combine after launch.

During the Iran-Iraq war of 1983 to 1988, Baghdad's use of chemical weapons was documented by seven United Nations missions to the war zone which found evidence that they were deployed against both military and civilian targets.

The most notorious use was in March, 1988 at Halabja, a Kurdish town 150 miles from Baghdad and 10 miles from the Iranian border, where thousands of people were reported killed when Iraqi forces attacked the town while it was under the control of the Iranian Army.

Five months later, and several days after the ceasefire was implemented, the Iraqi armed forces began a big military offensive against Kurds in northern Iraq and used chemical weapons to force more than 50,000 of

them to migrate across the border into Turkey.

Despite the widespread horror over such military tactics, they proved effective, and the fact that Iraq escaped any significant international penalties provoked fears in the world community that other belligerent states might be tempted to develop their own chemical weapons.

The lack of action by the world community emphasized the weaknesses of international agreements aimed at limiting the use of chemical weapons. Iraq clearly violated the Geneva Protocol of 1925 — which prohibits the use of poison gases or bacteriological weapons — of which it is a signatory.

Baghdad has also signed but not ratified the UN convention prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of bacteriological and toxin weapons that went into force 1975.

Israel, the enemy against whom President Saddam

threatened to use his chemical weapons, is one of the few states, according to one military analyst, which has a fairly sophisticated defence capability; everyone has a gas-mask, and Israel has undertaken extensive civil-defence precautions against chemical attack.

STOCKHOLM: Two Swedish businessmen appeared in an appeals court here yesterday on charges of smuggling explosives to the Middle East in defiance of a government ban (Reuters reports).

Mr. Mats Lundberg, a former director of Nobel Industries, the arms and chemicals group, and Mr. Karl-Erik Schmitz denied illegally shipping up to 1,600 tonnes of explosives to Iran, Syria and Egypt between 1981 and 1985. The hearing is a prosecution appeal against the decision of a district court last year which cleared the two of the charges, which carry a maximum penalty of six years in jail.

Lack of fire injuries in Sydney a 'miracle'

Sydney — A massive fire at a liquefied petroleum gas plant, which caused the largest evacuation in Sydney for 20 years and closed Australia's busiest airport, could have led to catastrophe.

Firemen said it was a miracle no one was killed or injured when the explosion of a 40,000 gallon tank set off a series of spectacular fires which sent flames several hundred yards into the night sky on Sunday.

About 100 fire officers fought the inferno for eight hours. Thousands of people living within two miles of the blaze were evacuated, including guests at a luxury airport hotel and travellers at the airport's international terminal. (Reuters)

Minister goes

Nairobi — President Moi of Kenya has dismissed his Information Minister, Mr. Wamun Kanja, without public explanation. (Reuters)

Official quits

Canberra — The Australian Finance Minister, Mr. Peter Walsh, quit his post shortly after warning that Australia was in grave economic trouble. (Reuters)

Guards hurt

East Berlin — Unknown assailants attacked and injured several East German border guards at gaps in what remains of the Berlin Wall. (Reuters)

13 die in bus

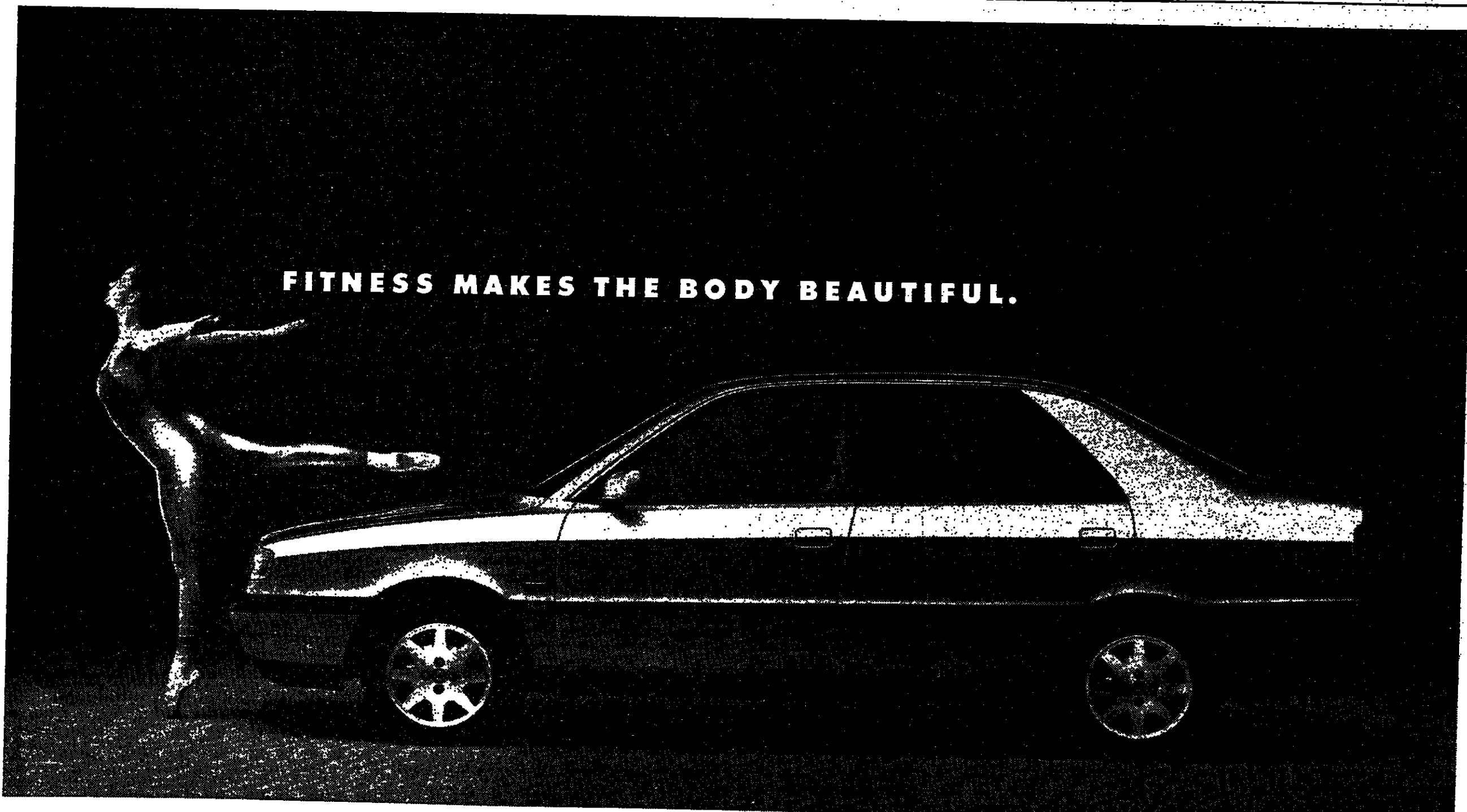
Johannesburg — At least 13 people were killed in a collision between a bus and a truck outside Bloemfontein. (Reuters)

Paper chase

Oslo — A Norwegian firm says that it has linked up with Poland's Solidarity to launch a newspaper to rival three Communist Party dailies in Wrocław. (Reuters)

Egypt ballet

Cairo — The French choreographer Maurice Béjart is to stage a new ballet in Egypt next month, based on music from Arab nations. (Reuters)



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Press rises in curi

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Pressure on Kohl rises over rates in currency union

From Ian Murray, Bonn, and John Holland, East Berlin

HERR Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, yesterday hinted that he would not support the controversial recommendations of the Bundesbank on achieving currency union between the Deutschmark and the East German mark.

Herr Kohl's intimation came after strong criticism of the proposals from within his own Government and from the sister party of the Christian Democrats in East Germany.

The bank, which is demanding total control over East German monetary policy as its price for administering currency union, wants the agreed exchange rate to be two Ostmarks for one Deutschmark. In a statement yesterday, the bank said that, in making this recommendation, it had taken into account the need to ensure the stability of the Deutschmark and to retain

New setback for CSU in Bavaria

From Ian Murray, Bonn

THE Christian Social Union, which has dominated Bavarian politics for the past 40 years, suffered its worst electoral setback in the second round of the communal elections there on Sunday.

In the first round a fortnight ago the CSU lost control of a number of its former strongholds and its candidate for Lord Mayor of Munich was virtually humiliated, receiving scarcely a quarter of the votes cast.

On Sunday, when voters in areas which had not given an overall majority to one party in the first round voted again, the CSU did much worse, losing control of eight larger

Slovenia poll boost for Greens

By Richard Bassett

THE Green movement appears set to play a key role in Slovenia's first free election campaign since before the Second World War.

Voting in the first round will take place on Sunday, and most Slovenes believe that the former communist party, led by Mr Milan Kucan, the republic's President, will win.

But according to a poll published yesterday by the Belgrade daily newspaper, *Vecernje novosti*, the Slovene Greens may get as much as 31.3 per cent of the vote.

The election is being contested by 17 parties, including the communists who now call themselves the Democratic Reform Party. The Greens may hold a crucial balance of power if the voting, as seems likely, is split between fringe parties and the former communists.

Part of the reason for the support for the Greens lies in the fact that much of Slovenia's wealth in recent years has been derived from tourism. Its pollution problems are less noticeable than other parts of Eastern Europe, but Ljubljana, the republic's capital, suffers from smog during the winter.

Last month, Ljubljana radio warned parents of small children to keep them indoors. In January and February the sun rarely appears as more than a pale white disc in Ljubljana until after 2 pm.

Mr Dusan Plut, leader of the Slovene Greens, is convinced that as 1992 approaches, all the countries of Europe will have to address themselves to inter-regional environmental issues.

"The environment is the overwhelming challenge of our era," he said yesterday.

Prague seeks a new security structure

By Andrew McEwen, Political Editor

MR JIRI Dienstbier, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia and a former dissident, yesterday took issue with Mrs Margaret Thatcher's view that Nato should remain a strong military alliance despite the changes in Eastern Europe.

During a visit to *The Times* he called for the development of a different security system in which all European nations could participate. "We have to find some new structures in which everyone can be present," he said.

"We think that if we go along with this European integration, no country will be strong enough to attack the others," he said. "If we were asked what he had against Nato, he would reply: 'Not-

the competitiveness of the East German economy.

The bank argued that if the two currencies were given parity, East German business would have to face costs at a level that would make it impossible for them to grow, and the state would not be able to meet its debts.

If state subsidies were removed from basic foods and wages were increased before currency union, the bank said, it would mean that its proposed rate of two to one would give workers a higher income in real terms.

In his statement, Herr Kohl said he explicitly acknowledged his personal responsibility to the people of East Germany. He had given this undertaking during the election campaign there and he stood by what he had said. He would study the Bundesbank proposals carefully, and he promised that he would hon-

our his pledge to look after the welfare of the East German people.

Currency and economic union, he said, were the first steps towards political union. He hoped that it would be possible to reach agreement on how these should be achieved by the summer, after negotiations with the freely elected East German Government, once it was set up.

For the present, however, no decisions had been made.

The Chancellor had raised expectations of a one-for-one exchange rate during the East German election campaign, and now the opposition Social Democrats are roundly accusing him of lying in order to win votes for the Christian Democratic Union (CDU).

Herr Oskar Lafontaine, who will be the Social Democratic Party candidate for the chancellorship in the general election in West Germany next December, told reporters yesterday that Herr Kohl was committing "a blatant fraud" against the voters. He would be to blame if there was an upsurge in immigration from East Germany.

The latest figures show that 5,000 more East Germans moved to the West last week, at an average rate of 710 a day. The inflow is sure to accelerate if disillusionment sets in.

Much though the Chancellor believes the Bundesbank's proposals make sound economic sense, therefore, he knows that the political answer is not so simple. If too high an exchange rate is negotiated, then bankruptcies and unemployment would drive people to leave. If too low a rate is agreed on, then poor pay and social security benefits would not persuade people to stay.

Although Herr Theodor Waigel, the Finance Minister, has said that he accepts the Bundesbank's proposals, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, said in a radio interview yesterday that they were "unacceptable". Pensioners had to be given a living income, which would not be possible under the Bundesbank proposals. The ideas needed to be reconsidered, he said. "They are not the last word, they cannot be."

Herr Lothar de Maizière, the East German leader of the CDU, was also dismayed by the proposals, saying they would lead to a new wave of settlers moving West.

He said the CDU and the Government it would lead had fixed on an exchange rate of one Ostmark for one Deutschmark as its aim. Incomes in East Germany were only a third of those in West Germany, he said, and if the bank's proposal was accepted it would mean that people would only be a sixth as well off.

Mental abuses 'continue'

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

ALTHOUGH far fewer dissidents are now in psychiatric detention in the Soviet Union, the practice continues according to the International Association on the Political Use of Psychiatry.

Mr Robert Van Voren, its general secretary, who has just headed a group of Western psychiatrists on a week's visit to Moscow, said yesterday that their associate body in the Soviet Union had only 30 to 40 cases on its lists.

But it was now difficult to trace such instances because individuals were being sent to hospitals in remote areas. As they were so few among the total complement of patients in those establishments, it was much harder for them to have close communication with relatives or to contact the opponents of psychiatric abuse in the outside world.

Also, while the number of known political prisoners in the Soviet Union had declined from 1,000 to about 100, the

actual proportion of them in psychiatric detention had increased from 20 per cent to more than 40 per cent.

While stated policy was to eliminate psychiatric abuse, there were still "strong conservative forces opposing this change in Soviet psychiatry."

"The structure of their psychiatry is still the same," he added. "The people in charge are mainly those who have been there for the past 30 years, who personally were involved in political abuse of psychiatry, including, for instance, the president of the Soviet All-Union Association - which has monopolized psychiatry there for so many years. The legal reforms car-

ried out have been so minimal that the situation is essentially the same as it was in the past.

"At the same time, opposition to such practices is growing among psychiatrists who are forming independent associations, as in Moscow, in Leningrad and in Estonia."

"There is strong opposition, too, on the part of lawyers who feel that the rights of psychiatric patients are in no way guaranteed and who seek legal changes to prevent political abuse of psychiatry."

The same trend was evident among the public and in the press which was frequently publishing articles on this abuse, not only in the past but giving current examples.

Berlin leader of SPD quits

From Anne McElvey, East Berlin

THE leader of East Germany's Social Democratic Party, Herr Ibrahim Bohme, yesterday resigned all his posts after persistent allegations that he had worked as an agent for the state security service and an internal row on the formation of a coalition with the country's conservative parties.

The SPD's new leader, Herr Markus Meckel, speaking just hours after Herr Bohme's resignation said it was now unlikely that the party would enter into a coalition with the three-party Alliance for Germany, although no final decision would be taken before a late night sitting of the executive and MPs.

He said he was basing the refusal on a vote taken within the party executive, but he refused to give a reason for the change in direction. The Social Democrats had been expected to form a grand coalition with the conservatives today.

Herr Bohme was due to resume the party leadership yesterday after being allowed to see the files the Stasi kept on him, but he failed to appear at his first engagement and announced his resignation in a letter to the party executive.

He said in the letter that in order to clear his name he needed more time to examine further files.

The party's spokesman, Herr Karl-August Kamilli, announcing the resignation quoted Herr Bohme as saying: "This lengthy process of clarification is not possible in the short time available."

Herr Bohme added that he was resigning his posts as party and parliamentary leader "out of respect for the work of the party and East Germany's young democracy."

He also said that his health had suffered because of the campaign against him and that he also needed time to recuperate from an ear infection.

His lawyer, Herr Friedrich Wilhelm von Sell, said yesterday that his client denied all the allegations against him. But he added: "Without complete knowledge of the files it is impossible to deliver a final judgement in this matter."

A well-known figure in dissident circles before the collapse of communism in East Germany, Herr Bohme is widely thought to be innocent of the charges against him, but few in his own party were satisfied with the hesitant manner in which he rejected them.

The Christian Democrats' leader, Herr Lothar de Maiziere, against whom similar allegations were made a fortnight ago, appears to have weathered the storm and was nominated by his party, which has the largest share of votes in the new Parliament, for the post of Prime Minister.



Herr Bohme: Resigned after persistent allegations that he was agent for the Stasi

Russians in Estonia mull over independence issue

From Anatol Lieven, Narva, Estonia

NARVA is one of those historically fought-over spots where today it is very difficult to imagine what the armies were fighting for. The old town, whose baroque churches and merchants' mansions were flattened by Soviet artillery when the retreating Germans made a stand there in 1944, has been rebuilt in the usual style as a home for long-suffering *homos sovieticus*: islands of concrete in a sea of mud.

The only two monuments are an elegant seventeenth century Swedish town hall, and a massive fortress which has been restored, and is now an excellent historical museum under the curatorship of Dr Eldar Effendiev.

Dr Effendiev is half Azerbaijani and half Estonian, and a supporter of Estonian independence. The history of his museum records is equally complicated: before the latest round in the 1940s, Narva was fought over by Danes and Germans, Russians and Swedes until Peter The Great settled the matter - permanently, as he doubtless thought - in 1704.

Today, Narva lies in the Estonian Soviet Republic, but more than 90 per cent of its inhabitants are Russians. Under the independent republic before 1940, the figure was only some 30 per cent, but Stalin's deportation of Estonians and a policy of encouraging Russian immigration saw to the difference.

Some of the leaders of the Inter-Front movement, which claims to represent the Rus-

sians now living in the Baltic states, have demanded that if Estonia becomes independent, Virumaa, the district of which Narva is the capital, should join the Russian Republic.

As a prelude to this, they are demanding an autonomous republic within Estonia. This might in certain circumstances be attractive to Moscow, because the oil-shale of Virumaa provides much of Leningrad's electricity, as well as earning a handsome profit in the form of exports to Finland.

The idea of dividing their already small republic infuriates Estonians, and is not very welcome even to Russian Inter-Front supporters in other parts of Estonia, whom it would leave stranded. Among Russian politicians from the Narva area, the proposal is supported by the Communist Party first secretary of Narva and the district second town of Kohle-Järve.

They are backed from inside Russia by the hardline communist Union of Working People but they are opposed by the Russian mayor of Narva, Mr Vladimir Mizhni.



Map showing Narva, Estonia, at the border with Russia.

With a solid local majority, and with Russia itself just across the Narva river, there is little chance of Estonians being able to oppress them. There are also a fish sausage and four tormented chickens, the sole occupants of the meat section of a Narva supermarket I visited. This doesn't sound like much, but it is considerably more than the contents of the same section in a supermarket in the Russian town of Ivanogorod, across the river, which contained precisely nothing.

"Maybe tomorrow, at 4 o'clock," the cashier told me. National pride goes down much better with a bit of chicken - even Russian pride, and emaciated Estonian chicken.

Prague puts its faith in miracles

From Peter Green, Prague

THEY came from hundreds of miles around, from Bratislava and Zvolen in south Slovakia, and they stood for hours in the cold sunshine, outside the Eden Park gymnasium in Prague, hoping their maladies would be cured.

A thin, high-pitched voice cracked out of a loudspeaker as Mr Steve Ryder, a former bank robber but now a Christian faith-healer from Australia, announced: "Nowhere in the Bible does God tell you to mix together herbs and use them to heal yourself. God says his word is medicine."

"Hallelujah," came the roar of the crowd.

After four decades in which the Church and religion were barely tolerated, Czechoslovakia is undergoing a spiritual revival. The Pope is due here later this month to consecrate five bishops, and when the Dalai Lama visited the country it led to the creation of a Buddhist society.

Mr David Chaloupka, of the Christian Mission Society, who invited Mr Ryder to the country, said: "For years we

were persecuted. I was regularly brought into (state security) headquarters on Bartolomejska Street, and beaten as they tried to get me to co-operate with them."

Even mainstream priests like Father Václav Malý, who signed the Charter 77 human rights document, were banned from preaching.

For more than a week, several thousand people have come each day to the gymnasium where Mr Ryder is preaching.

Mr Vladimir Novansky, a lighting engineer and a Roman Catholic, had driven four hours from Bratislava with his son, aged 13, a diabetic. "I read about this healer in the newspaper yesterday, so I came," said Mr Novansky. "I look at it realistically. It might be a waste of time, but we can hope. Why not try it? Maybe there can be a miracle."

All around, people told similar tales. Few had come to find God: most wanted a cure for their physical ills.

"Since I was a child I have had many illnesses," said Mrs

Maria Parobkova, a grandmother who had travelled with a friend all night by train to have her arthritis healed.

"We pray quite a lot, and very occasionally it happens that it helps. We would do anything so that Mr Ryder heals us. We'd pay whatever we could to be healthy," Mrs Parobkova said.

Miss Gabriela Pasekova, aged 16, had waited six hours the previous day to attend the faith-healing session. After fainting when Mr Ryder attempted to cast out the "evil spirit" inhabiting her body, she said she felt good all over. "It was a lovely feeling. I felt my heart everywhere in my body."

Today she had brought her mother's rosary, hoping that Mr Ryder's blessing would help cure her mother's diabetes.

Mr Ryder, a stocky man with a blond beard, told the audience that Jesus would save them. A dozen fresh-faced young people played guitars and beat tambourines. As the crowd settled down

Vilnius softens stance over talks

From Anatol Lieven, Vilnius, and Michael Binyon, Moscow

THE Lithuanian leadership sent a conciliatory message to President Gorbachev yesterday in response to his latest demand that the parliament here revoke its declaration of independence. However, the response falls short of meeting the President's central demand.

The message, drafted by the praesidium, describes the Lithuanian Parliament's declaration of independence on March 11 as taking place "under the terms of the Soviet constitution".

It states that Lithuanian representatives are "ready and willing" at your immediate convenience to enter into talks with the USSR Government to discuss Lithuania's legal status from a Soviet constitutional and international legal perspective.

On Sunday, Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis told Moscow's Interfax news service that to rescind its declaration of independence was legally and morally impossible. He added that the present situation was not hopeless, and he would do his best to normalize relations.

But the message sent yesterday marks a break with the former position of Mr Landsbergis and his immediate associates that no discussions relating to the central issue of Lithuanian independence can take place.

The feeling of many analysts here is that Soviet pressure has had its effect, and with widespread expectation of an imminent declaration by Moscow of President's rule in the republic. Mr Landsbergis and his colleagues have felt obliged to soften their stand.

The failure of Estonia to declare immediate full independence, and the lack of recognition by foreign states may also have had their effect.

In striking contrast to the tone of recent statements from Vilnius to Moscow, the message is full of personal praise for the Soviet President, declaring that: "It is thanks to your strong leadership that the peoples of the USSR have begun to enjoy greater freedoms and legal rights."

However, many Sajudis deputies are deeply unhappy with the message and its implications. Mr Zigmantas Vaisvila, Sajudis board member and chairman of the security committee, emphasized it means only that Lithuania agrees to discuss the independence question with reference to the past Soviet constitution, not to any changes in the law on secession introduced after Lithuania's declaration of independence.

Dr Virgilijus Cepaitis, the Sajudis deputy leader, described the message as "a step back."

"We can't hold discussions on the basis of the USSR constitution, which has never had force here."

Lithuania has also announced that it would accept an offer of mediation by President Havel of Czechoslovakia. Iceland has also offered to host talks. But Moscow has not responded to any such proposals, regarding the issue as a domestic matter.

The Soviet Union, however, appeared eager yesterday to give an impression of restraint, on the eve of the visit to Washington by Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Foreign Minister.

He will hold talks with Mr James Baker, the Secretary of State, on preparations for the Washington summit in June. But Lithuania will be a main item on the US agenda.



Mr Ryder ministering to one of the many who flocked to his faith-healing session in Prague

TIMES DIARY

ALAN HAMILTON

Despite having declared publicly that he was too old to succeed Dr Runcie as Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr John Habgood has now dropped what I take to be a broad hint that he is prepared to be considered. In a survey of half the General Synod's members by Gallup last week, the Archbishop of York, who is 62, emerged as the clear favourite, even though they had all heard his protestations that he did not want the job. He is in the unique position of being the only bishop who can rule himself right out of the running. While all the others are



Habgood: starter's orders?

candidates whatever they say in advance. Ebor can choose to be either a candidate or a member of the Crown Appointments Commission, but not both. Members of the commission have been told, I hear, that Dr Habgood will not be joining their deliberations in this case — which must mean his hat is in the ring. Ladbroke's preference for the Archbishop of Armagh notwithstanding, my money is riding on John Ebor, currently being offered at 12-1 against.

His government, I am reminded by Professor Howard Stater of Cardiff, is not the first to impose a poll tax, nor the first to provoke rioting in the streets as a result. The third Earl Grey, Secretary for War and the Colonies in 1846 (for whom read Kenneth Baker), proposed just such a thing for what became the Gold Coast (for which read Scotland). By the time it was implemented in 1852, Grey — son of the eminence grise of tea — had moved on to another post (Baker again). Within days the administrator of the area (for whom read Malcolm Rifkind) was complaining that collecting the tax was "a matter of much trouble and difficulty". Local tribal chiefs (for whom read overspreading Labour councils) were jacking up the levy beyond the statutory shilling a head, and thereby enriching themselves. The districts rose in revolt, and the government tried to remove rebellious chiefs, blaming opposition to the tax on "half-caste and half-civilized elements" (for whom read Militants and West End rioters). Earl Grey (for whom now read Mrs T) blithely wrote expressing his satisfaction at the tax's success. For the modern parallel to this story's ending, read what you will: the tax was modified to exclude infants, the old, the poor and the deceased, but within three years it had become so unworkable that it was quietly dropped, and citizens of the Gold Coast lived happily ever after.

Overheard from the lips of a *Socialist Worker* seller, his brain possibly disengaged in preparation for Trafalgar Square, in full cry in Newcastle city centre last week: "Smash the poll tax. Smash the Tories. Smash the, er, um... something else."

Caring folk, Volvo owners. Mr Justice Michael Davies apologized to his libelling it during his summing up in Lord Linley's libel case last week. At first he had been directing the jury as to what level of damages they might award, drawing the distinction between the cost of a Porsche and "a clapped-out Volvo like mine". Addressing lawyers gathered for another



Davies: Swedish rhapsody

case, the judge admitted: "I have apologized to it personally and have promised it a good service." The car, he confessed, was only four and a half years old, and the most reliable he had ever owned. I note that he made no order with regard to costs.

Tom King, the Defence Secretary, broke new ground in his White Paper yesterday. A colour photo, taken from the rear of a Hercules of a Phantom jet being refuelled in mid-air, was the work of King himself. He was flying over East Falkland at the time. Was King, I wonder, trying to emulate Hitchcock, noted for making fleeting appearances in his own films? Modestly, King says there was a gap to fill in the glossy document, and he just happened to have his happy snaps with him. But I cannot help noticing that, for the first time I can remember, the opening page of the White Paper also bears a colour picture. A portrait of the Defence Secretary, in fact.

AT 95p, there can be no bigger bargain on God's earth than a frog. Or, indeed, on God's water. Which is perhaps the most remarkable feature of all: for not only after you slap down your sovereign do you receive, in addition to a bob in change, something which hops, croaks and mops up flies — each function alone an astonishing value for the money — you walk away with that incredible item, an amphibian, equally at home on log or ripple. You can take a frog anywhere.

Compare this with the cheapest goldfish on the market. At £1.85, you are buying little more than a lacquered minnow. It does not hop, it does not croak, and if you put it on a log, it will pop its funny clogs. Furthermore, not only does it not eat flies, it requires the regular sustenance of Bioflakes at £3.99 a pot, because if it is not waited on hand and foot with its

daily 21.5 per cent protein, 5.2 per cent fibre, 1.8 per cent minerals, and vitamins A, D and E, it will turn over on its back.

The only consolation to watching £1.85 go belly-up is that it is probably the most interesting thing the goldfish will ever do. I have never been able to understand why people put goldfish in their ponds. I can just about discern the case for putting them in an aquarium, where they will at least glare at you, but the only time you ever see them in a pond is when they come up briefly to make a hole in £3.99. As soon as they have got 21.5 per cent protein inside them, they disappear again. Whatever they find

to stare at down there under the weeds, it is not you.

Now, readers with uncluttered memories may recall that I reached these conclusions a whole year ago when I sought to stock my pond with more substantial fauna than the news, snails and little scudding things which had hitherto held ecological sway beside the rockery. Wishing to do things right in a neighbourhood lazily committed to bedder and sapling, I planted frogs from seed: a big bucket of spawn went in, and in due season several hundred tadpoles graduated from the maternal jelly and began growing. They also, such is the way with evolution, began

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ALAN COREN

vanishing; indeed, the relationship between the growing and the vanishing proceeded at so apparently symbiotic a rate that I could not but conclude that brother was gobbling brother, until that mo-

ment when I caught one of the last giant survivors disappearing head-first into a newt.

Which is why last Saturday found me strolling the humid aisles of Wilding's Pond Centre. This is not unlike an aquatic Rhapsody, from tank after seductive tank a hither to an imaginable array of freshwater delights ogles and supplicates, inviting the unbuttoned wallet to take them home to do their thing. There are umpteen varieties of fish, from orf to the size of argon darts to crafts so enormous as to suggest they are named not for their physiognomy but their diet: there are countless breeds of newt and toad and axolotl and other

exotica so expensive you would swear they had been raised from caviar... and down at the rough end of town there are common frogs at 95p apiece.

I bought a bagful. Half a dozen. In the car, they sat on the seat beside me, when I stopped on The Ridgeway to glean a chunk of log, I could hear them croaking. They missed me already.

Back home, I put the log in the pond, and the frogs on the log. They did everything right. They hopped off it. They climbed back on. They paddled about. They croaked again. I felt like God. I had made a world.

They did their stuff throughout that sunny afternoon. In the

evening I went out to dinner, and when I came home at midnight I nipped out to see how they were getting on.

I tiptoed through the grass and about my torch. They were not in the pond. They were climbing the rockery. Caught in the searchlight beam, they froze. It was like Goldilocks. Had they planned to send me a postcard when they got to Switzerland?

What should I do, at this point where nature met nurture? Interfere with the Great Scheme of Things? What would God do? Dumb question — as far as God is concerned, £3.70 is neither here nor there. Gently, I plucked them from their flight and put them back on the log. On Sunday, I put a net over the pond.

Bloody amphibians. You may be able to take a frog anywhere, but keeping it there turns out to be a very different kettle of fish.

Anatol Lieven reports on Lithuania's internal conflict

Late converts to caution

take seriously a negotiating team without an agenda, particularly if it is not itself entirely in agreement.

The jealousy and contempt existing between the Sajudis and the remaining Communists is the most dangerous aspect of the new Lithuanian administration. On the face of it, the mutual hostility is surprising, for many Sajudis deputies were members of the Communist Party, and both Sajudis and Communists stood in the February election on pro-independence platforms, although the Communists were more cautious about means.

In January, the Communists, under former president Algirdas Brazauskas, broke away from the Soviet Communist Party. For two years Brazauskas has been manoeuvring Lithuania towards independence despite enormous resistance from Moscow.

Since the declaration of independence three weeks ago, the Sajudis deputies have been dominated by the "Kaunas Faction", named after the country's

second city and former capital. Kaunas is in Lithuania's ethnic heartland, with few Russian and Polish emigres, and its Sajudis deputies represent a more uncompromising style of nationalism than those from Vilnius. It is they who have been talking about armed resistance to any Soviet military intervention.

It was also this faction that pushed the decision on independence through the caucus of Sajudis deputies, making its adoption by parliament certain. Many deputies were doubtful about the wisdom of such a declaration so soon, but only three voted against, putting pragmatism before the risk of being branded in national history as Soviet stooges. Many, even in Sajudis, now say privately that it would have been wiser to do things the Estonian way, by negotiating with Moscow while building the foundations of independence.

Among the public — only 41 per cent of whom voted for Sajudis — many think Mr

Brazauskas should have remained president. Because of his qualities and his years of service to Lithuania, he and a number of his colleagues were exempt from the accumulated public loathing which sank most of his party at the elections.

Above all, people believe that he alone has the experience and contacts to lead negotiations with Moscow. Many Western experts also believe that independence might be more acceptable to Moscow under Brazauskas than under Landsbergis, and while it can be said that Brazauskas and his fellows are compromised by their participation in past Soviet rule, this is also true of several Sajudis leaders.

To negotiate with Moscow, Lithuania must have a starting point. Mr Brazauskas suggested last week that this might be an agreement to hold a referendum on independence. Mr Landsbergis seems to be moving slowly towards accepting this, but he continues to reject outright the

condition necessary to give it some point: that parliament suspend — though not revoke, as Moscow insists — its declaration of independence until the referendum. Given the Western pressure on Mr Gorbachev to eschew force, this could be the basis for a settlement.

Comparison with Estonia is instructive. Before its parliament passed the laws introducing a "period of transition" last week, I spoke to one of the most radical Estonian nationalist leaders, Trivimi Velliste. He concluded that "There is no point in declaring full sovereignty when we have even less chance at present than Lithuania of controlling our own territory". This was an acknowledgment that the large Russian population in Estonia demands a more gradual approach.

By contrast, when I talked to a Lithuanian Sajudis deputy about a referendum, our conversation went no further than the illegality of the Soviet annexation of 1940 — which in

practical terms is irrelevant. There is an element of tragedy in the conflict — so far, fortunately still a legal and political one — between Professor Landsbergis and President Gorbachev, for both sides are partly in the right. The Lithuanians are of course right to seek the restoration of the independence they lost in 1940; but Mr Gorbachev may also be right to fear that, if achieved too quickly, their independence could precipitate the disintegration of the Soviet Union, and so have hideous human consequences. His expressed fear that collapse of the Soviet Union would lead to massive ethnic conflict and displacements of population may be exaggerated, but, bearing in mind recent history and present events in the Transcaucasus, it would be hard to argue that it is without foundation.

History has already passed judgement on the Soviet Union. It is perhaps unnecessary to hasten unduly the execution of the sentence. If the outcome is violent and terrible, the fault will not lie entirely with Mr Gorbachev. In addition to warning Mr Gorbachev, not to use force, Western leaders should repeat to Professor Landsbergis the words of Talleyrand: *Surtout, pas de zèle* — "Above all, no zeal".

How Bush can help build a new Europe

Yesterday's defence White Paper, despite its cautious approach, acknowledged that in this decade we shall "move forward a very long way" in European security. But it failed to provide a bold vision of the route the West should take. Perhaps the time is approaching for the United States to expand its vision of a Europe united and free, to clarify what kind of security structure it requires.

To accomplish this, President Bush will need to adopt a bolder approach than that which has brought him success in Europe so far. During most of the Cold War, the US led by pulling Europe along with the force of its ideas. The Bush administration, however, accurately judged the change in the European environment as well as the decline in US authority. So Bush has led quietly by building a consensus and then articulating it to European leaders. The formula has worked well since the Nato summit last May, but it may not work well for the establishment of a new European security system, because a consensus seems to be building which is inimical to US and British interests.

As the fog begins to lift from the changing European landscape, Nato must address three related security problems.

First, having failed to gain Warsaw Pact support for a neutral Germany, Mr Gorbachev may well concentrate his efforts on ensuring the removal of US troops and nuclear weapons from West Germany as Soviet troops are forced out of East Germany. But any provision in a two-plus-four agreement which banned Nato forces from a united Germany undermines the concept of mutual defence on which Nato is built.

Moscow policy-makers are divided as to the wisdom of leaving Germany without the stabilizing influence of US troops, but those seeking symmetry appear to have the upper hand. And Moscow will not without influence, since the new Germany will want an orderly departure of Soviet troops.

Polls show that most German people favour removal of foreign troops from German soil. Chancellor Kohl, however, favours retaining some US troops after the Soviets are gone — a view shared by most other Nato leaders. But Gorbachev will still be able to exert intensive pressure on Kohl to remove all foreign forces.

The second problem is the growing political pressure for a "European peace order", a "European confederation" or a "common European home". The concepts are Utopian and vague. Many people hope that Nato will eventually be replaced by a new scheme based on the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE).

Unfortunately, history teaches us that most all-encompassing collective security schemes have serious limitations. To act, the



Hans Binnendijk offers a plan for a Western security system to which Moscow could not object

CSCE today requires the unanimous vote of 35 nations, which would make effective defence impossible.

But rule by majority, in the manner of the League of Nations, is not the answer either. Four of the 35 nations are nuclear powers, and it is difficult to envisage a majority taking timely military action against one of these unless an existing alliance were attacked. In addition, any international system which committed US forces to combat by majority vote not subject to a US veto would probably be dismissed by the American Senate, as was the 1919 Treaty of Versailles.

A United Nations of Europe is another model now popular on the continent (with a European Security Council made up of the four CSCE nuclear powers plus Germany), but 45 years' experience have demonstrated that the UN is ineffective at peace-keeping only when the protagonists accept the presence of its Blue Helmets.

The third problem is the potential for instability in post-Warsaw Pact Eastern Europe. When repression was lifted, the fissures of old were revealed: border disputes, ethnic quarrels, nationalism, anti-Semitism, secessionist pressures and political factionalism. The leadership transition continues, and the shift from command to market economies will complicate matters by causing temporary but

acute dislocation and hardship. Recent civil strife between Hungarians and Romanians in Transylvania may be a taste of things to come.

Should conflict erupt again in Eastern Europe, there may be pressure to intervene, as there was during the Romanian revolution, but who will organize it, and how can misunderstandings and escalation be prevented?

To deal with these problems while protecting the integrity of Nato, President Bush may have to lead opinion instead of following it, by presenting a new vision of the European security system. In doing so, he might consider expanding on the themes of the Berlin speech by his Secretary of State, James Baker.

European security could be stably supported by three legs. An enhanced CSCE acting as a United Nations of Europe could combine arbitration and crisis management with a modest European peace-keeping force to deal with minor unrest in Eastern Europe and the Balkans. Major powers could be given a veto over the use of the European Blue Helmets.

Nato would be the second leg of the system, to deter possible conflict involving the Soviet Union. It could also co-ordinate arms control and quality-of-life issues. Nato's membership could expand to include all democratic

free-market states in the CSCE.

Under this arrangement, US forces in Europe probably numbering fewer than 100,000 could provide an infrastructure for large reinforcements if the Soviet threat should re-emerge. They might include aircraft with nuclear capability and mobile, rapid-action forces for multinational European peace-keeping activities agreed by the US and other members of the European Security Council.

Under these circumstances, maintenance of US forces in Germany would be easier to sell to the American, German and the Soviet peoples. A reasonable degree of American influence in Europe would be preserved.

The third leg of this new security triad would be economic. Forward defence, traditionally a military concept, must now be seen as an economic concept too. Healthy democracies in Eastern Europe may soon be Nato's most effective forward defence. US assistance to the reformed countries of Eastern Europe could contribute to the EC effort to bring former Warsaw Pact members into the Western fold. Victory for democracy will be expensive in Panama and Nicaragua, and even more so in Eastern Europe, but it is a price worth paying.

A strategy such as this, put forward persuasively by President Bush, could capture the imagination of Europeans, ensure general peace, and establish a mechanism to deal with instability in the newly liberated areas of Europe.

The author is deputy director (studies) of the International Institute for Strategic Studies. These views do not necessarily represent those of the Institute.

Alan Ryan sets out the case for refusing to pay the poll tax

The right to disobey

One of the first casualties of violent and frightening events is the ability to draw fine distinctions. It is not surprising if a policeman sheltering from a barrage of rocks and bottles lashes out at whoever is nearest. Nor is it too surprising if the leader of the Opposition lashes out at the members of his party who have been campaigning for a mass refusal to pay the poll tax. Who can blame Mr Kinnock for fearing that riot and mayhem will undo his efforts of the last two years, and provide the Government with the chance to turn attention away from the poll tax towards law and order?

But panic makes bad political philosophy. Britain is not on the verge of civil war, hoodlums in Trafalgar Square are not a sign that Britain is about to go the way of the Weimar Republic, and Labour politicians ought not to equate refusal to pay the poll tax with fighting in the streets.

Think, for instance, of Mrs Rosa Parks, the black woman who disobeyed the city ordinances of Montgomery, Alabama, and refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. She started something that well-meaning reformers in Congress had strikingly failed to achieve. Would Mr Kinnock rather she had surrendered her seat?

Think of Gandhi and the tactics he employed to drive the British out of India. It was not achieved by brute force, but by creating a kind of embarrassment in the colonial power: faced with disciplined, non-violent opposition, the British government had either to behave atrociously to secure its authority, or to negotiate independence in some shape or other.

Closer to home, think of the ways non-violent disobedience affected military organization and defence policy. In the course of this very long career in dissent, Bertrand Russell engaged in, encouraged and was jailed for civil disobedience, first when urging the cause of the conscientious objectors during the First World War, and again, briefly, in 1961, when campaigning for nuclear disarmament. He neither stopped the First World War nor persuaded the British government to abandon its nuclear weapons — and having high standards in these matters, he therefore counted himself a political failure.

But he was plainly wrong in that estimate. One effect of the campaign by conscientious objectors in the First World War was the vastly more humane treatment of pacifists in the Second World War. As for nuclear disarmament, it is hard to tell what caused what shifts in public opinion and government policy, but it is hard to believe that there would have been the Test Ban Treaty (which persuaded the major nuclear powers to stop atmospheric testing) without Russell's publicity-seeking tactics.

This, of course, raises the

question I have been skirting: what is the object of non-violent disobedience? The only sensible answer is that disobedience is a manifestation of majority rule. That is, majority rule makes sense only if minorities are willing to go along with majority decisions. If the majority simply decides to plunder and exploit the minority, one has not democracy, but oppression.

If governments issue orders that no decent person can carry out, the only thing to be said is that we all ought to have the courage to disobey them. That was the message of the Nuremberg Tribunal. The conscientious objector finds his philosophy. Britain is not on the verge of civil war, hoodlums in Trafalgar Square are not a sign that Britain is about to go the way of the Weimar Republic, and Labour politicians ought not to equate refusal to pay the poll tax with fighting in the streets.

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PRISON PRESSURES

The riot at Strangeways Prison has shown, not for the first time, acute deficiencies in Britain's jails. Recent Home Office optimism that the prison service was on course to better times has been shattered. The Government's penal policy still has not achieved its main aim: to reduce the pressures which give rise to violence by prisoners, intransigence by staff and conditions which have long been a national disgrace.

Two policies have been directed to these ends. The first is simply to build more prisons, a programme initiated by Mr William Whitelaw when Home Secretary. This costly option has been challenged as merely inviting the courts to fill the new spaces made available. In fact, as spaces have increased, the prison population has declined from 50,000 in 1988 to 47,000 today. Whatever the overall number of prisoners, the conditions in existing jails are so awful that it would be folly to prune the £1 billion building programme at present.

The second policy is further to reduce numbers going to prison in the first place. The latest blast in this direction was last February's Government White Paper on sentencing. The fall in the prison population has been due not to judges' suddenly deciding against sending convicts to jail (though magistrates have indeed cut down on custody), but to a reduction in remands and in the number of offenders under the age of 21. The Government has made available to the courts a wider choice of remedies including bail, hostels, community service orders, wider probation and suspended sentences.

Yet a full quarter of the prison population consists of prisoners on remand. Britain still imprisons for debt. The White Paper suggested, indeed came close to pleading, that the judiciary should confine custodial sentences to those guilty only of violent and sexual crimes and crimes associated with drugs. Fines and community orders should be more widely used. Fines should not only be stiffer but be matched more closely to the means of those convicted.

None of this will make much difference to the prison population, however, as long as judges continue to regard sentencing policy as their special preserve. Before the White Paper,

they lobbied the Home Office intensely against any central oversight of sentencing policy — and the Home Office conceded defeat. As long as Whitehall is this pusillanimous, prisons will continue to be packed by the courts. Since Mr David Waddington also wants to reduce standard sentence remission from two thirds to a half, for fear of upsetting Tory backwoodsmen, he can hardly complain if the judges take a similarly casual attitude to overcrowding.

At the same time, tactics for preventing riots and dealing with them are clearly deficient. An argument against private-sector remand centres has been that staff would not be able to handle trouble. Manchester has a good governor and a courageous staff, and look what happened. There should be no more of this argument for a custodial closed shop, whether from prison governors or their staff. Sub-contracting some remand centres to the private sector should ease the early introduction of low-key regimes in buildings where staff come into closer contact with prisoners. This in turn should improve intelligence on prison morale and separate remand from long-stay prisoners.

The prison officer unions have, predictably, been quick to use the Manchester incident to argue for more staff. Yet the much-vaunted Fresh Start programme was supposed to set this whole profession on a new course. There are now 50 per cent more prison staff than in 1979, their pay comfortably ahead of inflation, while recorded crime has continued remorselessly to rise. Now, after three years of industrial action and prison disorder, we have Manchester.

The public is entitled to some account of the performance of this service — other than yet more pleas from the Home Office to the Treasury for still more money. The Home Office approach to privatizing some prisons is as archaic — indeed positively pre-Thatcherite — as its weakness in the face of prison staff militancy. It leaves the front rank of the service, prison governors, constantly looking over its shoulder for fear of staff opposition to higher productivity or more constructive prison regimes. Clearly more than a fresh start is now needed.

HALF A LEAGUE ONWARD

The fear that has inspired Nato strategy throughout the post-war era has been of a surprise attack in central Europe. Since the late 1970s in particular, the danger was that a united Warsaw Pact might invade within 48 hours of mobilization, overrunning frail allied defences in West Germany before the arrival of airlifted American reinforcements. This led in turn to heavy investment in conventional and short/medium range nuclear weapons.

One conclusion to be drawn from last year's events in Eastern Europe is that this threat has been drastically reduced. The Warsaw Pact as a military alliance, able to deploy massive war-winning forces across a wide front overnight, is for all practical purposes defunct. Despite all the caveats which thread through yesterday's relaxed defence White Paper, the collapse of the "short-warning" threat must be the starting point for a future, more radical review of Britain's defence posture.

Yet the paper also shows that, despite these changes, the military potential of the Soviet Union remains high in a region that remains conspicuously unstable. What it does not do is resolve the apparent dichotomy between this costly wariness and cost-saving optimism. The Government must be more specific, and for two reasons. The first is that the Services need reassurance. Though recruitment is reasonably buoyant, the haemorrhage of trained manpower from the Armed Forces has begun, in response to speculation about force reductions.

Second, public opinion is now confidently expecting what, for want of a better word, is termed a "peace dividend" to mark the end of the cold war. The 10-15 per cent cuts expected later this year as a result of the Conventional Forces in Europe talks in Vienna should restore faith in multilateral arms control. These reductions have largely been overtaken by events as Russian troops pour eastwards away from the old front lines.

So what could the White Paper now imply? The answer is that reductions in the central European theatre cannot be equated with cuts in major strategic programmes. The European Fighter Aircraft, the projected attack helicopter for the Army and the Navy's continuing need for surface warships are all requirements which cannot easily be ditched — since if ditched they cannot easily be revived. The Army's multi-launch rocket system and new tank may fall into the same category.

For all Mr Gorbachev's *perestroika*, the Soviet Union added substantially to its armed strength last year: 1,700 more tanks, 400 ballistic missiles, 600 fighters and 10 submarines. It remains the overwhelming military superpower in Europe. While the threat of nuclear proliferation continues, particularly in a quarrelsome Third World, it would be foolish to abandon Britain's strategic deterrent. To cut the number of Trident missile submarines from four to three would also be unwise, since this would remove the virtual guarantee that one boat would be on station at all times.

The removal of the short-warning threat means, however, that certain measures can be entertained with more confidence. One is that the number of forward-deployed land forces in Western Europe can now be severely cut. Spare armour could be pre-positioned in West Germany, to be dusted down and re-manned in a crisis. The size of some procurement packages can be trimmed, in tandem with the reduction in manpower. Whether the RAF will need 250 EFAs is open to question — whether it gets any at all depends on continuing West German participation. The number of new tanks must surely be reviewed. With the surprise attack scenario scrapped, the calculations based on it can be reworked and money saved. There is at least some peace dividend on the horizon.

IN VINO...

The French cannot win, it seems. Six weeks ago, Perrier was forced to beat a global retreat when the American authorities found benzene in proportions no higher than could naturally be found in an egg. Now it is the wine merchants' turn. The watchdog over the health of the American people, the Food and Drug Administration, has banned the import of eight French wines (plus the Italian Asti Spumante) until their makers can guarantee them free of all trace of the Japanese-made fungicide, procymidone.

In consequence, not a bottle is moving from French ports, which ship more than £300 million worth of wine a year to America. And, since procymidone is used in almost every wine-growing region from the Antipodes to the European Community, where residues of the fungicide are permitted in wine up to five parts per million, exporters the world over face losses of \$1.5 billion in annual trade. In future, all foreign vintners will be required to certify that their wines are free of the offending chemical.

What makes this instance of FDA vigilance particularly piquant is that nobody claims that procymidone does people any harm. The trouble lies with FDA regulations which hold that artificial additives to food and drink which are not expressly permitted are forbidden. Since the fungicide has never been submitted to the FDA for analysis and product testing, its presence in any quantity, however minute, is illegal.

Conspiracy theorists aware of protectionist sentiment in the US Congress could be pardoned for suspecting a science-backed conspiracy against foreign foods. In this case, no protectionist villains from Napa Valley appear to be lurking backstage. The Admin-

istration insists that it is a straightforward case of enforcing the law.

Relatively straightforward, that is. American consumers, who have been happily imbibing the "contaminated" wine for some years, owe their new protection mostly to the development of more sophisticated testing equipment. By happy chance, it uncovered an offending ingredient present in foreign, but not American, products. The FDA is now 116 bottles into a test programme covering 205 wines from 21 countries as far apart as Chile and Italy. Given that it has so far found minute traces of procymidone in only 11, its preventive measures seem disproportionate.

Dangerous substances can be found in infinitesimal amounts in almost anything. Arsenic might be present in a necktie, as the head of Taittinger acidly commented yesterday. However, the European Community is ill-placed to hurl bricks in Washington's direction. Fifteen months ago, when it imposed a ban on all imports of meat containing growth hormones, the EC said it was risking a trade war for the sake of a paramount principle: that of the Community's sovereign right and duty to reflect consumer choice.

America then invited the EC to accept adjudication under the standards code of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, delaying meanwhile its implementation of the import ban. That is the right course this time. The criterion should be consumer safety based on firm scientific evidence: lacking where American beef was concerned, lacking in the case of procymidone. The public craving for safe food must be respected, but not indulged to the point of provoking unnecessary trade wars.

Cancer teaching seen as priority

From Dr M. G. Glaser

Sir, I refer to your report, "Cancer care in need of reform" (March 24), and in general I would support Professor Karol Sikora's recommendations for cancer services in London.

It is undoubtedly true that children and adults suffering from rare cancers are more efficiently treated in specialist hospitals. Successful treatment is largely dependent on the clinical experience of the doctors, which can only be acquired if they are caring for the majority of patients with these rare diseases.

The optimum management of patients with common cancers is influenced by many other factors. General practitioners must be acutely aware of presenting symptoms, leading to earlier diagnosis.

The fundamental role of surgeons and physicians in district general hospitals cannot be over-emphasised. The medical profession as a whole must be better informed, in order to advise and help patients at all stages of the disease. This can only be achieved if the teaching of cancer medicine is increased in the undergraduate curriculum.

Medical students inevitably should be exposed to specialist treatment. This lends support to the argument that, wherever possible, specialist cancer care should be available in large undergraduate teaching hospitals. These institutions are best able to provide an environment in which modern technology, broadly-based research, and multi-disciplinary support services are orchestrated to wage war on this menacing disease.

Yours faithfully,
MARK GLASER (Consultant in radiotherapy and oncology),
Charing Cross Hospital,
Fulham Palace Road, W6.
March 26.

Rich and poor

From the Chief Rabbi

Sir, In his article, "Hardly poor by choice" (April 2), Professor Raymond Plant refers to my response to the Church of England's *Faith in the City* report (which I published under the title *From Doom to Hope* in 1986). He correctly reflects my views as advocating self-help to help the poor emancipate themselves from the inner-city ghettos. In the same vein, I stated that greater than the curse of unemployment is idleness, and that cheap labour is more dignified than a free dole.

But Professor Plant is not justified in apparently attributing to me the view that "The rich deserve their higher income", implying that the poor deserve their lot. I stated or implied nothing of the sort. Wealth is no more distributed on merit than is good health. It is a pity that Professor Plant, like so many others, seeks to polarise the attitude to wealth and poverty, lending weight to the notion that one can only be relieved at the expense of the other. This seems economically and morally unsound (as the recent collapse of communism should have proved).

Judaism teaches that wealth is a legitimate blessing, provided it is honestly gained and selflessly shared with others; and poverty is an unmitigated curse which those afflicted as well as society at large must endeavour to mitigate and eventually to eliminate.

Yours faithfully,
JAKOBOVITS,
Adler House,
Tavistock Square, WC1.
April 2.

Sneak preview

From Mr James Lancelot

Sir, Recent correspondence (March 20, 30) on the subject of people who saw their own obituaries calls to mind the fairly well-known story of Winchester College, who is reported to have seen his own obituary printed in a well-known paper published in his native Yorkshire.

Wishing to reassure the editor of his continued presence in this world, he rang up, to be greeted by the somewhat tremulous query: "And where are you ringing from, sir?"

Yours faithfully,
JAMES LANCELOT
(Master of the Choristers and Organist),
Durham Cathedral,
6 The College,
Durham.
March 30.

Hungarian politics

From Sir Russell Johnston, MP for Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber (Liberal Democrat)

Sir, Like Mrs Thatcher, Roger Boyes in his description (March 27) of the Hungarian elections and Woodrow Wyatt ("How the Hungarians could leave us behind", March 28) seem to think that there are only two political positions, conservative and socialist. Anything else apparently baffles them.

The Free Democrats describe themselves as Social Liberals and believe that it is necessary for Hungary to release private initiatives quickly while doing everything possible to protect and improve social standards. That is not a Thatcherite position, as Gaspar Tamas, Alliance of Free Democrats MP, made clear when he spoke at the Liberal Democrat

Perils of rallies in central London

From the Chairman of the Tourism Society

Sir, The massive media coverage of the Trafalgar Square riot (reports, April 2) has so far largely overlooked the fact that Trafalgar Square, heart of the West End and home of the National Gallery, is also London's most popular focal point for overseas and British tourists. On a warm sunny Saturday it is probable that many people in and around the square were not poll tax demonstrators but international visitors whose natural curiosity was aroused by the obvious signs of an "event".

The violent confrontation between demonstrators and police caught up hundreds of innocent bystanders. Many were international visitors who had no idea what was likely to happen or how they might have avoided it. The impression they have taken back to their countries is appalling.

Although the police were obviously prepared, until rioting broke out there were no apparent warnings that there were risks involved for the innocent; many were non-English speakers. Once violence started the crowds were so dense that it was difficult or impossible to get out of the way. Those in restaurants, in particular, could not guess what was in store for them.

It is sadly now inevitable that any programmed political protest rally attracts people who will become violent and commit crimes as the opportunity presents. The police will be too busy defending themselves from attack and restoring order to identify the innocent from the guilty. It is therefore essential that arrangements be made now for an information system for visitors — in more than one language — warning people to avoid scheduled events likely to involve risks to personal security against which the police cannot guarantee protection. Those who knowingly then choose to be present can at least be assumed to be aware of their risk.

Community charging

From Mr Geoffrey Turner

Sir, The old rating system worked when it was possible to value rents of domestic property, a position which has not obtained since pre-1939. Since the war successive governments have failed to re-establish a viable rented market, now so sorely needed to counter the rampant inflation of owner-occupied house prices.

Let us therefore accept that there is no satisfactory valuation system, and that even if there were, it would not be a satisfactory method of charging.

My proposals for rating are essentially yours (leading article, March 29), except that I would simply measure or band houses on a scale of, say, one to five, based upon square footage or, even more simply, habitable rooms or bedrooms. No account would be taken of amenities, improvements, etc.

Thus an average three-bedroom semi might be in band three, with an average assessment either in line with the existing system or preferably at a much lower level to reflect those services which are truly local.

Neither is there any need or indeed justification for charging by number of occupants. Non-householder occupiers already pay rates directly or indirectly, either to landlords, or by way of contribution to household expenses.

I believe my system is almost as

Questions on curator's role

From Mr John Mallet

Sir, Two of our leading museum directors were recently reported ("Another fine old mess?", Arts, March 19) as believing that "the central figure in a museum is the curator".

Here, surely, is the central issue in the crisis affecting our national museums in a way strangely paralleled in our hospital service. Should the people who best understand the purpose of these institutions (the curators and conservation experts in museums, the doctors and nurses in hospitals) make the key decisions; or should those decisions be passed to full-time administrators, accountants, fund-raisers, building maintenance experts and public relations staff?

All the above groups are vital to a modern museum, but it is my conviction that the best managed museums are those in which the curator has the last word. Not all curators are good administrators, but neither are all administrators drawn from other walks of life: it is a question of making suitable appointments. Unless the knowledgeable curator takes charge, even attempts at popularising will result in trivialisation by self-styled experts in communication lacking any serious interest in the subjects they attempt to expound.

It would be helpful if you would publish a table comparing the numbers and rank of curators now in post at each national museum with the situation obtaining five years ago. There could be no better index to which museums are maintaining their serious purpose, and which are beginning to rot at the core.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MALLET
(Keeper, Ceramics Department, Victoria & Albert Museum, 1976-89),
11 Pembroke Square, W8.

But increasingly, other people's freedoms are being violated, and the balance seems to have tipped too far in one direction.

It is not just that riots are caused by fringe elements who attach themselves to demonstrations. It is that central London seems increasingly blocked off by such marches, and the freedom to use central London in a peaceful, non-political way is being curtailed.

Is it not time to review the precise venues available to demonstrators, and perhaps limit them to major open spaces such as for example Hyde Park or London Fields?

Yours faithfully,
ALLAN SPINK,
26 De Beauvoir Square, N1.
April 2.

From Mr M. D. Saunders

Sir, Will the Government be seeking to introduce an ID scheme for poll tax demonstrators, or is the answer provision of an all-seater stadium for such events?

Yours faithfully,
M. D. SAUNDERS,
6 Kings Drive,
Littleover, Derby.
April 2.

simple as the poll tax, but considerably fairer and easier to understand than the current rating system — no valuations required; with all the claimed advantages of local accountability and comparison incorporated; immeasurably easier to collect and administer; unlike the poll tax or local taxation, totally unavoidable.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY TURNER,
Geoffrey Turner and Partners
(Property advisers),
Churchill House, West Park Road,
Lingfield, Surrey.
March 29.

From Miss Helen A. Edmondson

Sir, As the current debate over the community charge continues, we as inhabitants of Cheltenham have been dealt a further blow. We are currently hosting the Conservative Party mini conference and have just learned the cost of the entire policing operation (around £100,000) is to be born by us poll tax payers.

This of course is in addition to all the inconvenience which goes along with security operations: sealed off roads, hundreds of unarmed and armed police, helicopters circling overhead, steel crash barriers, concrete sewer pipes stretched across roads and "no go" areas including a public garden. A pretty high price to pay.

Yours faithfully,
HELEN A. EDMONDSON,
8 Montpelier House,
Suffolk Square,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
March 28.

Curb on solicitors

From Mr Jeffrey Bayes

Sir, Alastair Brett's article, "Advocates on trial" (March 27), about solicitor advocates in the higher courts correctly points out that they are "doing immensely important and often harrowing work for clients in juvenile courts, child care proceedings, industrial tribunals and magistrates' courts, every day of the week".

He might have gone further. Solicitors already have rights of audience in certain types of cases in the crown courts and, in addition, the Lord Chancellor has power to make regulations enabling solicitors to appear in all cases, including in jury trials, in parts of the country where there is no local bar.

If it is believed that solicitors in some parts of the country are fit to conduct such trials for reasons of geographic and economic expediency, surely solicitors in other parts of the country should be allowed similar rights without having to apply for the grant of those rights?

Yours faithfully,
JEFFREY BAYES (President),
The London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association,
113 Kings Cross Road, WC1.
March 30.

Student loans

From Mrs A. F. Brasier

Sir, It is currently an offence to solicit loan business from minors; should not the Government consider the reason for that rule, and maybe even the moral principles involved, rather than immediately seeking immunity for itself (report, March 26) in order to send loan literature to sixth-formers?

Yours faithfully,
A. FELICITY BRASIER,
26 Chalkwell Road,
Needham Market,
Ipswich, Suffolk.
March 26.

Canterbury succession

From the Reverend John Watson

Sir, It is already becoming apparent from reports in the press that many Anglicans are concerned that the Prime Minister should have anything to do with the appointment of the next Archbishop of Canterbury; they think that this is a matter solely for the Church of England.

As a Free Churchman I disagree entirely with this view for the following good reason: the Church of England is what the phrase says, *The Church of England* and as such enjoys a number of privileges — the Archbishop of Canterbury takes precedence over all laymen; he has access to the Crown; he, with the Archbishop of York, has a seat in the House of Lords and so helps to make our laws, and so on.

It is for this reason that the Prime Minister is (of whatever party) must be a party to the appointment of any Archbishop of Canterbury for she represents all of us — the nation. She certainly represents me, a Free Church minister. If Anglicans want to run their own "show" let them become disestablished, like the rest of us.

Yours respectfully,
JOHN T. WATSON,
16 Beverington Road,
Eastbourne, Sussex.
March 28.

Baltic rights

From the Chairman of the Baltic Council

Sir, Soviet menaces against Lithuania, wrapped up in hints of violence or provocation by the Lithuanians, should deceive no one.

There have been no preparations to wage psychological war against the inhabitants of Lithuania, except those preparations made by the Soviet Government. There have been no dangers of clashes in Lithuania, except those provoked by the Red Army.

It is appropriate now to remind the Soviet Government of a text they appear to have forgotten:

By virtue of the principle of equal rights to self-determination of peoples, all peoples always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference, and to pursue as they wish their political, economic, social and cultural development.

This is the peaceful desire of the Lithuanian people. The words are those of the Soviet Government, as expressed in Article 1.VIII of the Helsinki Agreement. Yours faithfully,
MARIE ANN ZARINA, Chairman,
Baltic Council,
2 Ladbroke Gardens, W11.
April 2.

Captive market

From Mr J. D. Eagles

Sir, Further to Dr John Doherty's experience (March 30) of shopping during traffic jams in Rome I can add that, in Caracas, not only is it possible to buy newspapers and cigarettes etc., while similarly immobilised, but it is usually also conveniently possible to buy back one's own windshield wiper blades stolen earlier in the journey.

Yours faithfully,
J. D. EAGLES,
Vilshofenerstrasse 6a,
8000 Munich 80,
West Germany.
April 2.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.



Enthralling: Dorottya Udvardos in the title role of Wedekind's *Lulu*

Clare Colvin reports on how political change has stolen a march on artistic expression in Budapest's theatre

The play's no longer the thing

Under a repressive government, theatre replaces newspapers as a means of criticizing the state.

On my last visit to Hungary, in 1986, a number of playwrights, ranging from contemporary Hungarians to Ionesco, were banned; when I returned to Budapest during the final days before the recent election, two former dissidents, István Császár and István Eörsi, were campaigning — for the Democratic Forum and the Free Democrats respectively — and their plays were being performed by the National Theatre, where the repertoire of Hungarian works had been restricted to Molnár's froth and the weighty 19th-century writer, Imre Madách.

This freedom is a cause for celebration, but there is also a sneaking feeling that theatre has lost its purpose. Eörsi's Hungarian version of *Antigone* is playing to the intellectual audiences that crowd into the National's studio theatre, but as one actor said, "It's too late with its message. We were allowed to bury our dead heroes last June." (He is referring to the belated honouring of Hungary's executed premier, Imre Nagy.)

Before last autumn, the role of theatre as a form of resistance added adrenalin to the performances. András Bálint, managing director and leading actor at the

innovative Radnóti Miklós Theatre, remembers the tension that accompanied releases in 1988 of a play called *60 Andrási Street* (the address of the secret police headquarters). It was the first production of any play about the torture and imprisonment that marked the earlier days of the communist regime. But then the newspapers began to publish documented stories of injustices, stealing the play's fire.

"Being courageous was part of the aesthetic of theatre," says Bálint. "We have lost that part because we do not have to be courageous any more. You have to produce plays of quality, which is more difficult. The problem for artists in Hungary is that art is not important now. People do not go to the theatre in the way that they used to, because life and politics can now be seen on television. Our whole lifestyle is changing."

Each of the 16 theatres in Budapest has its own state-subsidized company. Of these, the Katona József has the highest reputation for acting and direction. It opened in 1982 under the leadership of two talented directors, Gábor Zsámbéki and Gábor Székely, each of whom had previously run a state provincial theatre. The theatre has remained resolute against government pressure.

On my previous visit I saw Zsámbéki's production of Pinter's *One for the Road*, set in an interrogation cell which was obviously based on the secret police HQ. But the play has now been

dropped from the repertoire as *passé*. Still playing are Gogol's classic about corrupt officialdom, *The Government Inspector*, and Jarro's *Ubu Roi*, in a production that highlights the vulgarity of dictators, with more than a passing nod in the direction of Ceausescu and his wife.

Although this company also performs plays by contemporary Hungarians (the best example, György Spiró's *Chickenhead*, is about the violence bred by inarticulacy), it concentrates on translated classics: Shakespeare, Chekhov, and most recently a full-length version of Wedekind's *Lulu*, which held the house enthralled for three and a half hours.

Not only are the classics dramatically superior to most contemporary Hungarian plays, they are also accessible to audiences in other countries. The company brought *Government Inspector* and Imre Császár's highly regarded *Three Sisters* to London last summer, and *Ubu* to the European Theatre Convention in France last autumn. They open a new production of Chekhov's *Platonov* at Paris's Odéon theatre in May, and tours have been arranged to Chicago, Glasgow, Mexico and Dublin. This has inevitably led to mutterings by Budapest theatregoers at the supposed defection of their favourite company to foreign fields.

Gábor Zsámbéki, the theatre's artistic director, acknowledges the dangers of being successful and

self-confident, and says that they also plan to open a studio theatre. In the East European tradition of "waste not, want not", a successful production has a much longer life than its western equivalent. *Three Sisters* and *Ubu* opened five years ago, though Zsámbéki reckons that such runs are too long.

"We were never a court theatre, trying to be polite to the government, so we are not changing our direction. I am now looking for a play which will speak about the chaos that is with us. We have unemployment, a growth in right-wing parties, in chauvinism and a hard type of nationalism which is frightening. There are street battles in Transylvania and south Czechoslovakia. You fear you are living in a chaotic country."

Over at the National Theatre, the new director, Imre Császár, who took over in June, is trying to reform what has been a rigid "museum" theatre. At 39, he had his share of career setbacks under the previous government. He spent nine years in provincial theatre in the industrial town of Miskolc, sowing the seeds of theatre on its stony ground. Three years ago, after a conflict with the local authorities about the plays he was producing, he left to become a freelance director.

The National has long been in need of a shake-up, and Császár took the unpopular step of dismissing some of the leading actors. He has also introduced hitherto unperformed plays into the repertoire — classics like Mrozek's *The Portrait*, Ostrov-

sky's *The Forest*, Brecht's *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and works by formerly neglected Hungarian playwrights.

"I want to bring this theatre nearer to what is happening in real life," he says. "There have been very deep changes in our social life, but the National Theatre has been treated as some sacred thing that must remain classic. We are adding to our repertoire plays that speak about the aim to change the world."

The political changes of the last year or so have been reflected in the upheavals among the theatre managements, and at least seven theatres in Hungary are in the throes of leadership crises. But what causes most consternation, in the smaller theatres particularly, is the bizarre new system of funding — one of the final impositions of the outgoing communist government. Under the scheme, the theatres receive a sum equivalent to about £2 for each seat sold. While the large commercial theatres showing *Cats* or *Rain for your Wife* will be no worse off, smaller theatres face ruin.

"It is a terrible idea," exclaims Zsámbéki. "It helps theatres with an enormous auditorium, but it kills the art theatre. The idea is against theatre and the arts." The theatre directors will now have to persuade whoever forms the new government to untangle the mess. The juggling with figures will make adjustments to the poll tax look like child's play.

Teenage rock 'n' troll

OPERA
Hilary Finch
The Button Moulder Oundle

SELDOM has Peer put himself about so promiscuously. After *Gynt* the play at the National, comes *Gynt* the ballet at The Place; and now there is "Gynt the opera", at Oundle this Monday and Wednesday and soon to visit Covent Garden.

The latest persona adopted by Ibsen's everyman is that of the boastful, self-centred teenager. But the Royal Opera's first, long-planned school opera commission, by Edward Lambert and the pupils of Prince William School, is far from the embarrassingly "relevant" narrow contemporary morality it could have been. To say, too, that the project is a far-reaching community effort is to give little idea of the flair and professionalism with which its almost entirely amateur cast (produced by Heather Diggle and her headmaster, Chris Lowe) carry off this fully-fledged opera.

The Button Moulder refers, of course, to the figure towards the end of the play who meets Peer Gynt at the crossroads and gives him a final chance to find his true self, before being melted down. Lambert frames his re-imagining of the encounter, and the story is played, as it were, in flashback, until time catches up with him.

Lambert has drawn on a variety of musical styles, almost as wide as Peer's own circumnavigations. There are the twists and turns of folk music, evocative yet never quite definable; there is the

pounding pulse of rock, the melodic parallels and earthy rhythms of the Middle Ages. There is a full battery of percussion, electronic keyboards and, holding it all together, both the baton of Nigel Hayward and a computer.

Musically, the opera's weakness lies in its heterogeneity; its strength in the uncompromising toughness and economy with which it uses its disparate resources. The sung dialogue is lithe and muscular, floating free of accompaniments as rhythmic and varied as Ibsen's verse; the duets and ensembles tricky and telling. There can be as much work for a recorder beginner as for a violin virtuoso. And the bold, hieratic hanging banners and superb cartographic floor cloth have drawn forth a virtuosity of eye (design supervised by Francis O'Connor) as much as of ear and voice.

There are ritual dances, too, supervised by Sue Burton and nearly always allied to the production's most memorable set pieces. The only major re-interpretation, and the evening's *coup de théâtre*, is the madhouse scene. Dobson, now as a manic impresario/dictator in gold lures, puts his cast of drop-outs, intellectuals and artists through a series of turns as chilling in their movement as in their music.

Set-pieces like these sometimes overwhelm the only nascent individual performances of Michelle King and Sam Northwood as the young and old Gynt, and Lisa MacDonald as Solveig. But, taking courage from Mallory Woodcock's superbly fearless Troll King, they will doubtless sharpen in profile before May 13, when they arrive at the Royal Opera House for a single performance well worth the booking.

Guided tour by the composer

CONCERTS
Stephen Pettitt
SCO/Davies
Queen Elizabeth Hall

WE ARE just two concerts and three works into the Scottish Chamber Orchestra's large contribution to the South Bank's Maxwell Davies festival. Already the diversity has been staggering.

With Sir Peter himself conducting and choosing his programmes, the concerts have given us insights into what lies at the root of his own musical personality: briefly, Haydn (the "Philosopher" and "Military" symphonies) and Beethoven (the Seventh Symphony and the *Coriolan* Overture). These works were treated to vigorous performances, charged with Davies's particular brand of energy and with love rather than reverence.

In at least one instance, Tchaikovsky has made his mark too, as Davies told us in his useful introduction to the cellist William Conway's strong and eloquent reading of the *Serenade* Op. 2, written for him and given its premiere just over a year ago. But the avowed influence of the *Rococo Variations* is surely felt only in the delicate balance of the orchestration and in elegance of

execution, for it is a dark-hued, beautiful, moving work.

Davies categorized it for us as "outdoor music": its solo cello line is inspired by the composer's observation from an Orkadian cliff-top of a gull in flight. To say that the piece exudes feelings of space, wonder, and poignant solitude gives the impression of something utterly romantic. So it is, though Davies's romantic manner is characteristically new.

Conway resumed his place at the first cellist's desk the following evening for *Into the Labyrinth*, the second of Davies's three-work cycle for chamber orchestra, composed for the SCO in the early Eighties. Another speech by Davies recounted this work's genesis as part of a protest against the instigation of uranium mining on

Hoy. George Mackay Brown's atmospheric words are inextricably bound up with the flavour of the place and its people, a symbolic recounting of the forces of nature at work in the islands and a powerful warning against the disruption of the daily cycle.

The soloist, Neil Mackie, for whose voice the work was composed, obviously understands it well, and negotiated its demanding, often high lines with confidence and sensitivity, while the orchestra gave a secure, purposeful performance of these five variegated, concentrated movements.

"Social music", Davies called this and the third piece of his, the effervescent, cannily contrived *An Orkadian Wedding with Sunrise*. Its joyous Scotch snaps and drones, comically drunken improvisatory effects, and George McIlwham's dramatic entry and procession through the auditorium in full national costume as he played the bagpipes to greet the dawn, all conspired to send the audience away bemused with their own joy.

Finding a clean, classy balance

FINE ART
John Russell Taylor

THE style wars. Striking also were galleries with a pronounced specialisation, such as Michaelson and Orient with their wonderfully inventive and grandly scaled ceramics.

The most effective miscellanies were, predictably perhaps, devoted to "Modern British", a catch-all label which usually manages to comprehend a lot of interesting and relatively inexpensive material. Clearly, from the number of stands on which his work appeared, Patrick Hayman is due for reassessment. Keith Vaughan's stock also seems to be

rising, and other rediscoveries of the last few months, such as Harold Yates at the Belgrave Gallery and Mary Fedden all over the place, showed to advantage.

Ricardo Cinalli, appearing in at least two different contexts, created a powerfully individual effect: he is Argentine, resident in Spitalfields, and makes astonishing, monumental drawings on classical/surreal themes out of coloured pastels on layer after layer of tissue paper.

If you were to take Adrian Dannatt's advice about investment-buying on this page last week, you would not look at any of the above. If, on the other hand, you were to settle simply for what you liked, the choice was rich.



Powerfully individual: Ricardo Cinalli's "Defeat: Blue Box"

Social and seismic engineering

TELEVISION
Sheridan Morley

FOLLOWING a weekend of considerable social unrest, the usual Monday batch of despairing documentaries took on more than ritual topicality. For *Peacetime* (BBC 1), Polly Toynbee looked at the Government's Social Fund, which has now refused emergency aid to more than a million people on or below the poverty line. It seems that the Government is still determined not to define a minimum standard of living, but to continue with the bureaucratic disaster of a new system which costs £45 million a year to administer.

Toynbee's chilling film found disabled pensioners in need of clothing, yet no longer classified as a high priority by ministers who seem to confuse the idea of a welfare state with that of a charity. As the fund runs short of money,

government computers appear to change the goalposts: children classified as young have to be under 11 one month, but under five the next, so as to cut back the cash being paid out to them. Nobody living in or near a city centre can doubt that the poor are relatively poorer now than in living memory, but what Toynbee's film uncovered was a potentially lethal mixture of bureaucratic inefficiency and ministerial indifference.

For those who prefer their disasters to be acts of God rather than inadequate social engineering, *Horizon* (BBC 2) considered the San Francisco earthquake of

last October with the help of hitherto unbroadcast security camera film. But 20 years ago this same *Horizon* producer, Michael Barnes, made a San Francisco earthquake film called *The City That Wants To Die* (repeated over the weekend), and it appears that the lessons spelt out then have still not been acted upon in any coherent way.

Barnes now believes that the Bay Area has had its final warning: next time, seismologists are predicting 20,000 deaths and £2 billion's worth of damage; but politicians still seem to feel that there is no reason to expect earthquakes to continue, just because a city has had them all this century. Meanwhile, if extra fire engines are needed for the emergency, they have to be released from a local museum.



Viviana Durante and Stuart Cassidy in *The Prince of the Pagodas*

Listen to the band

DANCE
John Percival
Prince of the Pagodas
Covent Garden

THE Covent Garden Orchestra so often comes under criticism on ballet nights, but when they play as well as they do Britten's score for *The Prince of the Pagodas* the news deserves prominence. Ashley Lawrence, the Royal Ballet's former music director, back for the occasion as guest conductor, must take a full share of the credit, and the question now is whether the musicians can keep it up with scores by Holst, Mahler, Mozart and Prokofiev among others, all due shortly.

Most of the dancers, with 20 performances in London and on tour now behind them since the December premiere, look well in command of their roles, and Kenneth MacMillan has made a couple of small but important improvements to presentation: spreading out the action of the prologue to make it more legible, and introducing (with the aid of a double an apparent onstage transformation of the hero from salamander to prince at the heroine's kiss.

Colin Thubron's scenario still seems a nonsense for drama or for allegory: it would be more logical not to have Princess Rose betrothed before the ballet begins. But the dancers go a long way to hide the weaknesses.

That is especially true of Sylvie

Guillen, who made her debut as Rose on Friday. Everyone remarks on her virtuoso technique, displayed this time, for instance, in the speed and perfection of small tripping steps in her later solos. But I imagine she might welcome more recognition of the way she always shows a clear, vivid grasp of the theatrical impact of her roles. That was particularly apparent in her Act II solo rejecting the four unwelcome suitors.

Saturday afternoon brought several cast changes among those suitors. Adam Cooper, in his first big role since joining the company last September, shows both power and sinuousness as the King of the South. Errol Pickford's soaring jumps and razor sharp cabrioles impress as the Northern monarch; and William Trevitt gives the sour selfishness of the Western King new depth.

Simon Rice and Peter Abegglen at successive performances bravely tackled the demanding role of Rose's Fool, and among the familiar principals, Viviana Durante, Fiona Chadwick, Jonathan Cope and Stuart Cassidy all danced with greater command and added richness.

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Rocking back the clock: Hanif Kureishi returns to his roots

Rolling away the Seventies stones

Screenwriter Hanif Kureishi outraged radio listeners by calling the weekend's riots 'terrific'. His new novel also shows his talent to shock

Sex and drugs and rock 'n' roll seldom find their way into serious fiction. *The Buddha of Suburbia*, published this week, is an exception. Hanif Kureishi's first novel, it also concerns race, loyalty, class and social change.

Set in and around London during the Seventies, it draws on the popular culture of that time. Music, in particular, is often alluded to — this is a novel with a soundtrack. "I think they should sell the book with a record glued to its cover," Mr Kureishi says, only half jokingly.

When he was growing up in Bromley, Kent, pop music was not merely the stuff of escapist fantasy, but a real chance, perhaps the only chance, to escape to a more glamorous world. He still cares about it: "I find the distinction between rock music and high art false and snobbish," he says. "The whole of that era was soaked in music, and although I've tried to write a novel which is quite serious in some ways, I also wanted it to be fixed in its time."

The Fifties and Sixties are still constantly evoked by the worlds of fashion, music, the cinema and, in particular, advertising, but the Seventies have largely been neglected. *The Buddha of Suburbia* goes some way towards rectifying this omission. Here are silver platform boots and artful bisexuality (David Bowie was a pupil at the same school as the author), Gary Glitter and his sequinned colleagues are pushed aside by the Sex Pistols and punk. Against this background, Mr Kureishi charts the moral and political climate of the decade. The book is also extremely funny.

But Mr Kureishi is not a man given to laughter. He rarely smiles, in fact, although he is immediately likeable: if he came to your door selling encyclopaedias, you would probably buy the whole set.

Mr Kureishi's novel follows his screenplays *My Beautiful Laundrette* (for which he earned an Oscar nomination) and *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid*. Both films were set in the Eighties; he calls his book, tongue-in-cheek, "a historical novel". He has recently completed another film script,

London Kills Me, although he says: "Being a screenwriter still doesn't seem to me a very respectable thing to do. Too much happens between what you write and what ends up on the screen."

Third time around, however, he will be in a position to ensure greater fidelity: he will direct the film himself. Does he feel confident about this new departure? "I feel terrified about it... I may flee the country."

His earlier films have occasioned strong feelings, in some cases outright horror. "When my mum saw *Laundrette* for the first time she sat there with her hands over her eyes," he remembers. "Eventually she had to go out to the foyer. But she came round to it." Others have decidedly not come round to his work. In *The Sunday Times*, Norman Stone, the Oxford professor of modern history, condemned the "disgust and decay" of Mr Kureishi's films. Such a reaction does not displease the author. "I think it's part of a writer's armour to shock. Artists should be terrorists, not masseurs."

Much in *The Buddha of Suburbia* attests to this. It is certainly a book which overturns stereotypes, about Asians in particular. The reluctant bride of an arranged marriage becomes a militant lesbian, for example, and a Muslim civil servant sets himself up as a pseudo-Buddhist mystic. Even the potential cliché of the Indian corner shop is full of surprises. Then there is the sex, plenty of which, as Mr Kureishi says, with characteristic understatement, "is slightly unusual".

But for all his apparent flippancy, Mr Kureishi is committed to reflecting the truth of modern life. He says: "I like to think of myself as one of a number of writers who are describing the immigrant experience, and the contemporary results of it. I hope that there'll be a flowering of new black and Asian writers, to bring new life to British writing."

Cressida Connolly

● *The Buddha of Suburbia* is published by Faber at £12.99.

In the wake of the riots, the success story of London's centre of entertainment goes on, George Hill reports



A capital in harmony with itself: a concert draws the crowds to the piazza at Covent Garden

Why everybody is going West

(and in the centre of town there has been considerable resistance) it has proved hugely attractive.

There is some weekend activity in Oxford Street and Regent Street, concentrated in small shops — souvenir boutiques and franchises of operations such as Tie Rack. But most weekend shopping goes on a bit further out, especially in centres like Queensway, Earls Court and Covent Garden.

In Queensway even the most respectable shops — Boots, Dixons, Curry's, Benetton — defy the 1950 Shops Act to stay open until very late, says Roger Boden, director of the Shopping Hours Reform Council.

The availability of weekend shopping is clearly often attractive: the English Tourist Board has said that many London visitors, both domestic and international,

would like more shops open on Sundays. Heals judged its five-week Sunday opening in last summer's sale a huge success in consumer terms, although it caused something of a furore with the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers (USDAW).

But how long shops in the centre of town will be allowed to stay open late and on Sundays remains to be seen. USDAW has lodged complaints against all the shops in Covent Garden and Queensway: Westminster Council is faced with 200 complaints, all of which it will have to follow up.

West End restaurants report growing business at weekends, and a number of them stress that they have seen a particular growth in the numbers of parties from around London. "It is not so much the groups of two or four

who have increased, as the parties of eight or 10, arranging to come into the centre of London from opposite sides of the city," says David Smith of the Restaurant Switchboard.

Theatre audiences are making their own small contribution to the growing number of people coming to the West End. A report being prepared by the Society of West End Theatres, and due to be released next week, says that in the 49 member houses average attendances in 1989 were 666, a rise of 24 on the previous year.

While the present climate of financial uncertainty is causing many West End shows to close prematurely, the buoyant end of the market has ensured that the money-spinners — notably *Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Misérables*, *Miss Saigon*, and *Aspects of Love*

DANCING YEARS

All cities should have two distinct characters, balancing their daytime attractions with a sense of daring, exotic opportunity, secrecy and excitement as darkness falls.

After a decade of club culture which has included the rebirth of jazz and the rise of large-scale, illegal dance parties, the idea of late-night *ad hoc* entertainment is now an established part of the London weekend. A magnet for tourists and a source of fascination for the rest of the world, club culture has developed its own fashions and its own hybridized styles of music.

At the beginning of the Eighties, London night-life was so secret as to be invisible. It was the sudden infatuation with clubbing that caused a revolution. The weekend began on Monday and went on all week.

Before the Eighties, the choice lay between dingy rock clubs full of dour beer drinkers in leather jackets and suburban discos. By 1981 it was possible to sit at a table, converse, dance to the latest imported records of West African music, salsa, or rap from New York, and pop *kitsch* from the 1960s, or simply pose.

Saturday night in London now offers a constantly shifting array of themes, influenced by the changing fashions pursued by dance music fans, the world music crowd, or any of the other factions. Clubs advertise according to a specific musical code. Glam/punk/trash will establish a dress code and a style different to funk/hip-house/soul/swingbeat.

Elsewhere, a disc jockey may have just returned from Colombia with a suitcase full of salsa and cumbia records; a few yards away, there will be a club specializing in new age house music.

Curiously, the club scene's reliance on recorded music has probably contributed to the thriving concert programme. The diversity of current popular music, live and on record, partly derives from the notion that a club is an environment with sufficient privacy in which to live out a temporary fantasy. The fantasies have come to life, and in doing so, they have given London the musical night-life it should have.

David Toop

The second finalist in the *The Times*/PM Environment Awards puts a little wildlife into Humberside



Giving urban children a rural lesson: Bob Hopkins of Conoco

Deer find a home in the refinery's shadow

It might make a passable Russian proverb to say that red deer are not best glimpsed in an oil refinery, but if you live in Immingham on Humberside, it would not be true. The Conoco refinery outside the town is just the place to watch a group of hinds browsing silently, ears alert for the slightest warning sound.

With its roaring flare stacks, overhanging smell of crude oil and acre after acre of huge steel tanks the refinery is also an ideal spot to listen to warblers singing, catch the scent of wildflowers or gather large mushrooms and toadstools. Local schools look on the plant, which daily processes 160,000 barrels of crude straight from the nearby North Sea, as an outstanding aid to learning about the natural world.

They have Bob Hopkins, aged 42, to thank. A shift maintenance supervisor at the refinery, he rediscovered a forgotten corner of the site: a 30-acre endpiece covered in scrubland with Houlton's Covert, a 15-acre ashwood, at its heart. It had remained untouched and untrampled by visitors since the company bought the land 20 years ago.

Mr Hopkins, a man with a keen interest in wildlife, realized it was a wasting asset: not in its potential for refining oil, but in its very wildness. The strip of the Humber shoreline around Immingham contains one of the most solid concentrations of heavy industry in Britain, with pharmaceutical, textile, fertilizer and paint-pigment factories all within sight of the Conoco plant. Pieces of unspoiled nature had virtually disappeared.

Mr Hopkins persuaded Alan Hodson, the refinery manager, to



turn Houlton's Covert into a properly managed nature reserve, with carefully controlled access for employees and schools. Volunteer working parties helped them to fence the area properly, open up pathways through the undergrowth, create a pond for wildfowl and put up observation hides. As a final touch, they brought in a small herd of red deer.

Today, the ashwood has its own silence, a world away from the heavy industry all around it, broken only by a chiffchaff singing. It is astonishingly green, from its grassy floor and understorey of hawthorn, which seems to be covered in a green mist as the small leaves burst open. Rabbits scuttle away.

Eventually, if footsteps are soft, dark shapes can be made out through the trees; a red deer hind looks up, languidly. Five Immingham primary schools now regularly visit the covert. The children regularly see rabbits and squirrels, pond-dip for tadpoles, watch for the visiting heron or the resident sparrowhawks, and conduct "mini-beast hunts" for the insect inhabitants of trees.

"I think it's tremendous," said Gordon Fews, headmaster of St Andrew's Primary School, whose

charges were chattering excitedly that they would take back the tadpoles and put them under the "telescope", having just seen a red deer stag with "antlers".

A lot of the children come from poor backgrounds and they never get out into the countryside. There are parks and adventure playgrounds in the area, but nothing like this, which is such a rich environment for the kids to come to.

The wildness of the wood is important to Mr Hopkins, who acts as its warden in between maintaining heavy equipment all over the refinery. "We don't want to turn it into a park," he said. "We want to keep it as natural as we can." His plans for its future include introducing captive-bred barn owls, and making access through the wood for the disabled.

He is very pleased that his part of the business of crude oil has something other than pollution to offer the natural world. "I remember when I was a boy it was commonplace to go catching tadpoles and sticklebacks," he said.

"But the places I visited seem to have gone. This area is away from intensive farming and it has such an abundance of wildlife that I think it would be such a waste if children couldn't see it."

The seven-year-olds of Immingham, putting tadpoles under the telescope, and recounting the sight of a stag and the size of its antlers, would surely agree.

Michael McCarthy

● Bob Hopkins will be talking about Houlton's Covert on BBC Radio 4's PM tonight, from 5pm. Details of how readers and listeners can vote for the winner of the £5,000 award will be given in *The Times* and on PM at the end of the week.

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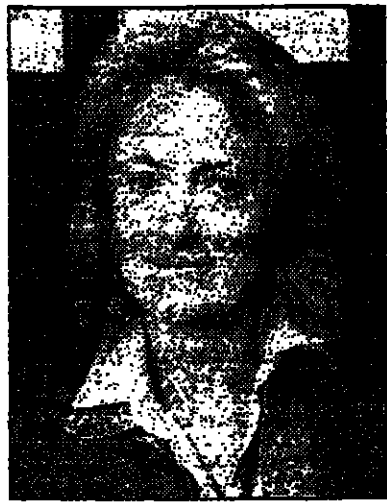
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CAFFE FAN



Looking like two billion dollars

Nobody wears Ralph Lauren clothes better than his wife, Ricky — or puts them through a more rigorous test



The Ralph Lauren multi-pocketed bush shirt that sells in his Polo shops and departments around the world has passed a trickier test than most clothes — it was worn by the boss's wife on safari in Kenya. Ricky Lauren, who has been married to Ralph Lauren for 25 years, normally keeps a low profile. She is the beautiful blonde wearing a simple, long tuxedo dress when the celebrated designer makes one of his rare forays into the Manhattan social scene. In recent years she has been glimpsed in *Vanity Fair*, riding on their ranch in Colorado wearing a fringed suede jacket and cowboy boots, and in *Vogue*, curled up beside her husband to model a "patchwork quilt" skirt and ruffled petticoats from his Santa Fe collection.

Now Mrs Lauren finds herself unexpectedly in the limelight, not just as the wife of the head of a \$2.4 billion fashion empire, but as an author. *Safari*, the journal of a trip she made five years ago — without her husband — has just been published, its launch coinciding with that of her husband's latest fragrance, also called *Safari*. A handsome book covered in sand linen, with leather corners and binding embossed with a Masai bead pattern, it is Mrs Lauren's straightforward account of her African adventure, illustrated with her own photographs.

She took three cameras with her, "because I never wanted to be out of film or switching lenses at a crucial moment", and found the pockets in the safari shirt "vital for holding lenses, film, pencils, pad, lip gloss and sunglasses".

The 1,000 numbered copies of the book cost \$150 each (or £100 from Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond St, London W1). All proceeds go to the World Wide Fund for Nature which Ralph Lauren has supported for years. Mrs Lauren's photographs are impressive, and her writing displays a directness surprising in someone considered to be reserved.

She met Ralph Lauren in 1964, when she was 19 and still a student at Hunter College. (Her cherished Huntergymnasium later inspired one of her husband's collections.) Ralph was working for a Boston-based tie company. She remembers wearing a cream silk shirt dress on their first date. When he first set up his own Polo business manufacturing menswear, Mrs Lauren began wearing the men's tweed jackets which her husband designed and was soon

followed by her friends, inspiring him to move into women's wear. Nobody wears his clothes better than she does.

"Ralph often asks me about the sort of clothes I think I need and what I like," she says. "But it is now a tradition that I only see the collection at the show. I am very honest. I am his harshest critic."

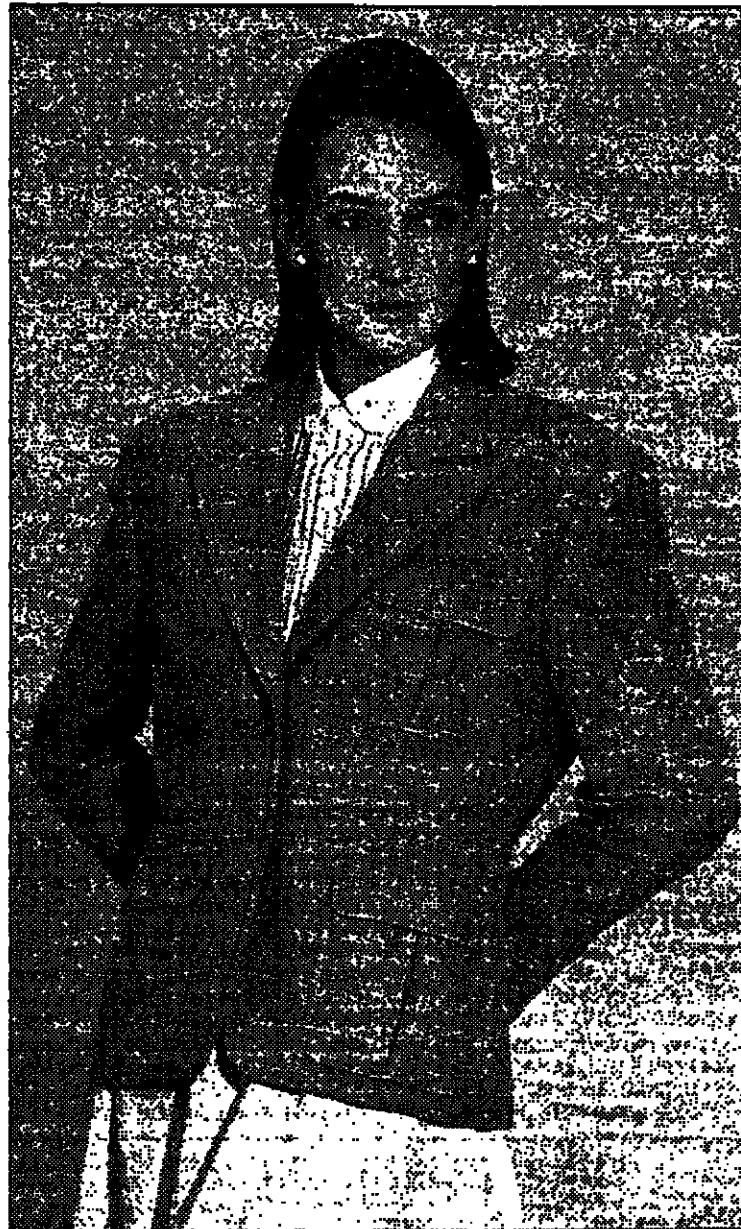
A stickler for authenticity, Ralph Lauren should be pleased by his wife's approval of his safari shirt in action. When he recently created a line inspired by golf clothes, he sent his design team to the professional golfers' convention in Orlando, Florida, to learn about regulations such as skirt lengths (no shorter than 19in), adjustable waistbands and tee-holders on skirts and pants. Wranglers in Santa Fe still talk of his insatiable curiosity about their denim jackets, stetsons and chaps.

Mrs Lauren says she rarely steps back to wonder at her husband's transition from the salesman to one of the world's most powerful fashion moguls, and one of the *Forbes* 400 richest men in the US. "When you have rolled up your sleeves and lived through those 25 years you cannot be surprised," she says.

Her life is divided between running a huge duplex on Fifth Avenue, a beach house at Montauk on the furthest tip

of Long Island, a house in Jamaica, and a 13,000-acre cattle ranch in Colorado which is piled with Navaho blankets, Apache baskets, Indian sculptures and beads. She has two sons, Andrew, aged 20, and David, 18, and a daughter Dylan, 16 this year, with whom she was holidaying in Jamaica last week while Mr Lauren was working on the collection he shows in New York tomorrow.

She is recognizable in Ralph Lauren's own comments, a few years ago, on a picture in a magazine of a model wearing his evening clothes. "This girl is very much my girl. She says everything I've ever said in what I do. She's not wearing a gown... she's wearing a light-weight wool man's tuxedo, an old Western shirt that is faded, a string of pearls and a crocodile belt. She's as sexy as you can get and everyone in the room is looking at her." Does she have a date, he was asked. "No. She's married to the chairman of the board. And she drives a Range Rover." That is Ricky Lauren, married to the boss, and today directing her own life.



Above: Striped woven serape, £230; hand beaded Appalachian leather waistcoat, £1,245; white linen shirt, £149; stone cotton jodhpurs, £95; tan leather belt, £60; suede moccasins, approx £85. Top left: Turquoise Norfolk jacket with cream overcheck, £375; striped cotton shirt with white collar, £85; cream skirt, £140. Left: Double-breasted red shantung silk jacket, £880; navy and white striped cotton Lycra top, £95; cream silk wide-legged trousers with front pleats, £690; red and white polka dot scarf (around waist), £55.

All clothes from the Ralph Lauren spring/summer collection available from 143 New Bond Street, W1 and Harvey Nichols, SW1

Make-up by Fiona Goffer
Hair by Terry Saxon for
Neville Daniel
Photographs by
JOHN BISHOP

MELON TAPESTRY BY KAFFE FASSETT



Fruit and vegetables have always been favourite subjects for Kaffe Fassett's tapestry designs. "Needlepoint is the perfect medium in which to capture the colour highlights and shadows of fruit and vegetables," he says, and this subtle colour shading makes his designs quite unique. The Melon is another splendid example in this tradition. The centre and sliced section are in blending tones of apricot, saffron, cream, Indian gold and burnt ochre while the surrounding leaves and skin of the melon are a dappled mixture of variegated greens: olive, fern and lincoln green, viridian, moss and pale ultramarine. All of this is set on a deep crushed strawberry background and set within a thin outer border of leaves.

Measuring 13 1/4 in x 13 1/4 in the design is printed in full colour on 10 holes to the inch canvas so it is quick to stitch. It can be worked in either half-cross or tent stitch and enough wool from the Anchor Tapestry range is included to complete the tapestry in either. The kit comes complete with canvas, wool, needle and instruction leaflet. All for \$28.50 including post and packing. Use FREEPOST — no stamp needed.

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Sleeping on the job

THE bright yellow Moulton bicycle that Christian Francis Roth uses to get around Manhattan is propped up inside his studio unused these days. New York fashion's youngest and newest recruit, dressed in T-shirt and ripped jeans, points to the bedding stored on top of a shelf unit in his loft studio, where he now sleeps while he prepares for his first fashion show today. His pet rabbits, Miss Mush and Miss Cupcake, both Ohio State Fair prizewinners, run free and are occasionally rounded up by his Jack Russell, Phineas.

Roth, just 21, is tipped to become a major design star. His clever *trompe l'oeil* jackets and jersey dresses already sell

in Saks, Neiman Marcus and Bloomingdales. Harvey Nichols in London hopes to place an order. Geoffrey Beene, Roth's design guru, writes him encouraging fan mail.

Roth's career began at 14 when he went to fashion classes after school. Apprenticed at 17 to Kees van den Akker, a Dutch designer based in New York (who went on to set Roth up in his own studio), Roth polished the technical skills that enable him now to seam, layer and appliqué his sartorial puns. A mosaic of colour crumbles to tiny fragments at the hem of a jacket. The sleeve of a dress is a sharpened pencil. Pencil shavings form the rippled edge on a bolero.

Roth is keeping the costs of his show today down to around \$6,000 (compared to the \$200,000 that the Calvin Klein show earlier today



Punning: designer Roth

might cost) by booking young models rather than established stars, and by singing and recording with friends the playground songs for the background music.

"Child's play" is the theme of the collection, and a school bus is being sent to pick up fashion pros from an earlier show and take them to his studio on the seamier edge of New York's fashion district. Roth's designs are considered worth the trip.

Best dressed and going for gold

THE International Best Dressed List, fashion's annual accolade to the chic that few people take very seriously, is 50 years old. Established in 1940 by Eleanor Lambert, an enthusiastic promoter of American fashion who still coordinates the list today, the Best Dressed are picked by a committee of social celebrities and fashion professionals whose yardstick seems to be made of elastic rather than steel.

The traditional 12 Best Dressed Women have been stretched to 14 this year by the

expedient of letting two sets of sisters-in-law tie for the last two places. There are two Trumps, Ivana (soon to be the ex-Mrs Donald) and Blaine (Mrs Robert), and two Niarchoses, Victoria (Mme Philippe) and Daphne (Mme Spiros).

The Princess of Wales is elevated to the permanent Hall of Fame, and special palms go to Mikhail Gorbachev for "opening doors to fashion... after 14 years of enforced anonymity" and New York's Mayor David Dinkins for the Best Dressed Inaugural.

"We are now putting together the ultimate list of the Fabulous Fifty to celebrate the anniversary," Eleanor Lambert says.

Streetwise in South Molton

JOAN Barstein of Browns, who was the first to import such New York fashion stars as Calvin Klein, Norma Kamali, Zoran, Michael Kors and Donna Karan to London, and put South Molton Street on the fashion map in the process, continues her colonization of this shopping mall with the opening of Labels for Less. The new shop clears last season's stock (men's as well as women's) at prices cut by up to 70 per cent.

Anyone who gazes longingly at the high-priced clothes elsewhere along the street will appreciate that a price tag of £500 for a Donna Karan coat, or £200 for an Isaac Mizrahi silk shirt is indeed a snip. Original prices were £1,045 and £675 respectively. And a Norma Kamali black velvet halter top, originally £120, with matching leggings, £190, are now £70 and £100.



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The Times Preview features a different area of the arts each day Monday to Friday, as indicated above, including events in the following seven days. Plus the Cinema Guide

THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

NEW IN LONDON

AS YOU LIKE IT: Sophie Thompson, Jerome Flynn, Hugh Ross in John Caird's production, I hope more naturally apt than at Stratford last year. Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (01-638 8891). Undergound: Barbican/Moorgate/St Paul's. Previews from Thurs, 7.30-10.30pm. Opens April 11, 7-10pm. Then in repertoire. Previews 2.15, 7.15, 8.15, 10.15. From April 11, 2.15-10.15, Thurs mat reduced price.

BEING AT HOME WITH CLAUDE: Josus of Montreal star Lorraine Bracco as a male star attempts to confess to his lover's murder puzzle the police: Canadian psychological courtroom thriller. Kings Head, 115 Upper Street, N1 (01-226 1916). Undergound: Highbury & Islington. Tues-Sat 8pm, mat Sat and Sun 3pm, 27-28. Until April 29.

THE LAST ENGLISHMAN: Premiere of David Pinner drama about Hereward the Wake. Kala O'Mara plays Mrs Wake. Orange Tree, 45 New Road, Richmond (01-840 3833). Undergound: Richmond. Opens Fri, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4.30pm (not April 7). Performances over Easter weekend but not on April 17, 18, 19. Mon-Sat, other parts 29-27. Until April 28.

PERICLES: Rob Edwards replaces the injured Nigel Terry in the role of David Thacker's attractive staging. The Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (01-638 8891). Undergound: Barbican/Moorgate/St Paul's. Previews from tomorrow, 7.30-10.30pm. Opens April 12, 7-10pm. Then in repertoire. Eves 12, mat 10.15.

SYLVIA: Julia Tarmoly in a must for Plath fans: one-woman show drawing on the journals, poetry and The Bell Jar. A sell-out at last year's RSC/Almeida season. Hen and Chickens, Highbury Corner, N1 (01-359 1030). Undergound: Highbury & Islington. Tues-Sat, 8-8.45pm, 24.50. Until April 22.

CONTINUING

BENT: Powerful performance by Ian McKellen as a doomed homosexual in a Nazi camp; the words-only love scene with Michael Casterman is unmissable for conveying triumph within torment. Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-379 5107). Tue: Undergound. Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, mat Sat 4-6.30pm, 29.50-21.50. Charity performance: Monday April 9 at 8pm, for Romanian AIDS babies. Normal prices.

EDEN: Black Theatre Season continues with Steve Carter's play, set in 1920s New York where a sophisticated West Indian girl loves a Southern Black boy. Alby James of Tembo Theatre directs. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (01-

748 3354). Undergound: Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm (no perf Fri, April 13). 25. Until April 14.

FIGARO GETS DIVORCED: Horvath's 1936 sequel to Beaumarchais: Figaro, Almaviva and the rest adapt to the Revolution, which Horvath transfers to modern times. British premiere. Gate, Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pambridge Road, W11 (01-229 0706). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, 25. Until April 21.

LOOK, LOOK: Stephen Fry, Margaret Courtenay, Robin Bailey in Michael Fryn plays about an audience, so maybe the reverse of *Noises Off*, though presumably still funny. Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 6404). Undergound: Covent Garden. Previews Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.30pm. Opens April 17, 7pm. Then Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.30pm, mat Wed 3pm, Sat 5pm. Previews 24-21.50, from April 17, 25.50-21.50.

MAN OF THE MOMENT: Michael Gambon and Peter Bowles superb in Ayckbourn's masterly harsh comedy: good meets evil on the Coast del Sol. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3857). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 7.45-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mat Wed 3-5.30pm and Sat 5-7.30pm, 27-21.50.

MARYA: Sylvestra Le Touzel and Julie Legrand in strongly cast revival of Isaac Babel's drama set in 1920 Petrograd where survivors of the old regime plan survival tactics. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-828 7618). Undergound: Waterloo. Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm, mat Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm. 27-21.50, mat 25-21.5.

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE: G&S Swashbuckler given the Broadway once-over; excellent in parts, though not the parts played by Bonnie Langford and Paul Nicholas. London Palladium, Argyl Street, W1 (01-437 7373). Undergound: Oxford Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat Wed and Sat 2.30pm. Mon-Fri 25.50-21.50, Sat eves 25.50-22.00, mat 25-21.0. Until June 30.

SHADOWLANDS: Nigel Hawthorne and Jane Lapotnik in fine and moving play about C.S. Lewis's Indian summer love. Swan Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-734 1166/01-439 3849). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Wed 3pm and Sat 4.30pm, 27-21.50.

VOLPONE: Ian McDiarmid (as the Fox) and Nicholas Hytner (fresh from directing *Miss Saigon*) renew the partnership that created a superb *Don Carlos* in Manchester two years ago. With Denis Lawson as Mosca. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (01-359 4404). Undergound: Highbury & Islington. Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm. Mon 24.50-21.50, Tues-Sat, eves 25.50-21.50, mat 25.50-27.50. Until May 5.

LONG RUNNERS: Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales Theatre (01-839 5972). . . . Cate: New London Theatre (01-405 0072). . . . Lee Lialom: Dargaville: Ambassador Theatre (01-836 6111). . . . Me and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913). . . . Lee Lialom: Adelphi: Palace Theatre (01-434 0908). . . . Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (01-379 4444). . . . The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). . . . The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). . . . Run For Your Wife: Whitehall Theatre (01-867 1119). . . . Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665).

TELEVISION TOP 10

National top 10 programmes in the week ending 26th March 1990

BBC 1	BBC 2
1 Neighbours (Mon 12.30/12.35) 18.0m	1 French and Saunders 5.8m
2 Neighbours (Tue 12.30/12.35) 18.1m	2 Food and Drink (Tue/Fri) 5.8m
3 EastEnders (Thurs/Sat) 17.5m	3 News at Nine 5.7m
4 Neighbours (Fri 12.30/12.35) 17.8m	4 Children Crossing 5.0m
5 Neighbours (Sat 12.30/12.35) 17.7m	5 Forty Minutes (Thurs 21.21) 4.8m
6 EastEnders (Sun 12.30/12.35) 17.7m	6 Run For Your Wife (Wed) 4.6m
7 EastEnders (Mon 12.30/12.35) 17.7m	7 8PM-9PM 4.3m
8 EastEnders (Tue 12.30/12.35) 17.7m	8 Curry on Curry 4.3m
9 EastEnders (Wed 12.30/12.35) 17.7m	9 The 11th Hour 4.3m
10 EastEnders (Thurs 12.30/12.35) 17.7m	10 Land of the Eagle 4.3m

Shortest television: The average weekly figure for audience at peak times (with figures in parentheses showing the number of people who viewed for at least three minutes).
BBC1: Breakfast Time: Mon to Fri 1.5m (7.8). TV News Good Morning Britain Mon to Fri 2.6m (12.8).
Source: Broadcasters' Audience Research Board

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2143

ACROSS

- 1 Tolstoy Napoleon war (3,5,5)
- 2 Body cavity (7)
- 3 Spanish friend (5)
- 4 Window frame (4)
- 5 Cutting remark (4)
- 6 Unusual thing (6)
- 7 Warm and snug (4)
- 8 Collier's warning (4)
- 9 Paper bulky (6)
- 10 Absent (4)
- 11 Natal warrior people (4)
- 12 Marine area (3)
- 13 Live (5)
- 14 Tuschel (7)
- 15 Standing for office (11)

DOWN

- 1 Assumed name (5)
- 2 Allies World War Two (5)
- 3 Act (4)
- 4 Act (4)
- 5 Second US city (7)
- 6 Sanctified (11)
- 7 Gibberish (6,5)

SOLUTION TO NO 2142

ACROSS: 1 Birthday 5 Swap 9 Suction 10 Hives 11 Capital charge 13 Keyed 15 Marks 17 Rough and ready 21 Organ 22 Evasion 23 Fund 24 Struggle

DOWN: 1 Basic 2 Reap 3 Hoisted 4 Arnold Bennett 6 Wavers 7 Posse 8 Shark 12 Ace 13 Karloff 14 Young 'un 15 Marzala 16 Kid 18 Hand 19 Aping 20 Yonno

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLLIERIES 836 3161 or 240 7913/4 CC 741 9999/536 7058/ 379 6431 First Cat Sat 8.30 240 7200 (10.15) Tue

THE KIROV BALLET

COLLIERIES 836 3161 or 240 7913/4 CC 741 9999/536 7058/ 379 6431 First Cat Sat 8.30 240 7200 (10.15) Tue

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

COLLIERIES 836 3161 or 240 7913/4 CC 741 9999/536 7058/ 379 6431 First Cat Sat 8.30 240 7200 (10.15) Tue

ROYAL BALLET

COLLIERIES 836 3161 or 240 7913/4 CC 741 9999/536 7058/ 379 6431 First Cat Sat 8.30 240 7200 (10.15) Tue

Clever clown as cult hero



In a quavering, wheezy voice, Elio Phillips (above) says: "I'm not a fatalist. And even if I was, what could I do about it?" Take a fraction of a beat pause—the audience does—and you realize for the hundredth time in an hour just how special, how careful, how crafted is this American's superb comic mind. Not for him the political vitriol or four-letter outrage of many of his generation—in fact, he says, he is actually scared of tropical material, preferring instead to meander through stories of childhood, life and love... usually self-deprecatory, frequently macabre, consistently bizarre. His appearance is unforgettable: 6' 2" of scarecrow frame, generally in trousers which resemble pyjama bottoms, with untied shoes (possibly with only one foot in a sock),

saw-off pageboy haircut and a disturbingly dislocated manner of waving limbs in all directions. But his casual appearance is no indicator of his acuity; while he may be a clown, he is not a fool. Underlying the comedy that has made him a star on both sides of the Atlantic is a profound intellect. He can draw his way casually from one topic to another and you'll need all your wits about you to follow him. His appearance in this country are rare—and though he did sell out at last summer's Edinburgh Festival, he is still just qualifies for the status of "cult hero." The visit this week to the West End promises to attract an even wider audience. Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, WC2 (01-439 3849). Sunday April 8, two shows at 6pm and 8.30pm. 25.50-12.50. Carol Sarler

OUTSIDE LONDON

BASINGSTOKE: The Cat and the Canary. Jimmy Crockett in the classic comedy thriller set in a seemingly haunted manor house with a seminar on the prowl. Haymarket, Wote Street (0256 465588). Opens Thurs, 7.45pm. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. Until April 21.

GAINSBOROUGH: The Dressing Pad. Upton-cum-Kesby community play rolls back the years to the Civil War (where would community plays be without it?); cast of 80 and a 12-foot pig. Upton-cum-Kesby Village Hall, Gainsborough, Lincs (0457 617422). Today until Sat: fair at 7pm, play at 7.30pm, 25-24.

GLASGOW: Antony. Mark Lewis in Glasgow's most famous drama, sensationally successful in 1981 in part for daring to set a tragedy of adulterous longings in a contemporary setting. Citizens' Theatre, Gorbals (041 429 5581). Opens Fri, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.30pm, 25. Until April 21.

SOUTHAMPTON: Same Old Moon. Ned Sherrin directs Glynis Barber and Julia Foster in wryly comic play about a girl's return to her Irish family. Muffield, University Road (0703 671771). Previews from Thurs, 7.30pm. Opens April 10, 7.30pm. Mon-Thurs 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, mat April 28, 4pm, 25.50-27.50. Until April 28.

STRAFORD-UPON-AVON: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING: Main house opens for the season with Susan Fleetwood and Roger Allen playing Beatrice and Benedick. Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 295823). Previews from Thurs, 7.30pm. Then Sat 1.30pm. Opens April 10, 7pm. Then in repertoire. Previews 25-27. From April 10, 25-28.

WORKING: THE ENTERTAINERS: Barry Jackson and Ben Warrise (who next year celebrates 80 years on the stage) touring in Osborne's Suez-time tribute to musical.

Connaught, Union Place (0903 35333). Sat, 7.30pm, Fri 8.15pm, Sat 7.30pm, Sat 2.30pm, 25.50-27.50. Until April 7.

CABARET

Carol Sarler

LONDON

CANAL CAFE THEATRE, The Bridge House, Delamere Terrace, W2 (01-288 6054). Tomorrow-Sat: 8pm, 24 (25.50-23.50) (25 concs), plus 50p membership. The doors of the Crown and Castle—one of the first and best—open again this week for regular Sunday cabarets. Tony Allen, with Steve Rowlett, Jo Brand and Alan Gibby, Douglas Douglas and Professor Insect.

CAST AT WILLESDEEN GREEN, Willesden Green Library Centre, Willesden High Road, NW10 (01-451 0294). Thurs: 8.30pm, 25.50. Chris Lyman can always be relied upon, a brilliant and sometimes very outrageous performer; here in company with Pat Condon, The Crisles Twins and complete OZ Carnation.

DOWNSTAIRS AT THE KINGS HEAD, 2 Crouch End Hill, N8 (01-340 1028). Thurs: 8.30pm, 25.50. (25 concs). 22 (21 concs), plus 50p membership. Once a month this always-jolly venue offers a night of try-outs: new performers or more established acts working in new material. No promises as to who will be there, apart from the Stuart Hall improvising trio.

BACKYARD CABARET, The Davenport Centre, 179 Whitechapel Road, E1 (01-791 2806). Fri: 8.30pm, show 8.45pm, 25.50 (25 concs), plus 50p membership. Stand-up comedy from Hattie Hayridge, magic from Ian Keable, comic nonsense from Noel James, a capella music from Drayton Undergound; with Douglas Douglas and Professor Insect and DJ Alan Gibby.

EAST DULWICH CABARET, The East Dulwich Tavern, 1 Lordship Lane, SE22 (029 4128). Fri: 8.30pm, show 8.45pm, 25.50 (25 concs). Steve Frost (the larger of the Carling Black Label lads), Irish comedy from Ian Macpherson, Alison Goldie and Ian Macdonald.

JONGLEURS, The Comet, 49 Leverd Gardens, SW11 (01-790 1151). 27 (25 concs). Fri: 8.30pm, show 8.45pm, 25.50 (25 concs). One of our most famous venues—please note that

booking is essential. On Friday Pierre Hollins, Johnny Immaterial, Steve Rowlett, Jack Dee, Felix and Sean Lock. On Saturday Keith Fells, OZ Carnation, Jenny Leocat, Bob Mills and Paul Morocco.

BACKYARD CABARET 2, Crown and Castle, 600 Kingsland Road, E8. Sun: Doors 8pm, show 8.30pm, 25.50 (25 concs), plus 50p membership. The doors of the Crown and Castle—one of the first and best—open again this week for regular Sunday cabarets. Tony Allen, with Steve Rowlett, Jo Brand and Alan Gibby, Douglas Douglas and Professor Insect.

STAFFORD GATEHOUSE THEATRE, Gatehouse Street (0775 546523). Thurs: 8pm, 24 (25 concs). Frank Sidesbottom and the wonderfully crazed impressionist Phil Cornwell ("Gibber") on children's television, offer a particularly off-the-wall evening.

COVENTRY: THE TIC TOC CLUB, The Old Vic, Primrose Hill, Regent (0203 630577). Fri: 8.30pm, 25.50 (25 concs). Delightfully dour stand-up Andy Linden shares a promising bill with Doon, a woman who performs the best spoof "trap" I have seen.

GRAP: COMEDY SHOP AT THE SHELTER, 7 Renfrew Court, Renfrew Chambers, Renfrew St (041 382 6231). Fri: 8.30pm, show 8.45pm, 24.50 (25 concs). Local hero Stu Who introduces an international comedy evening—Irishman Sean Hughes, Scot May McCreadie and American duo Burns and Mann.

EDINBURGH: GILDED BALLOON THEATRE, 223 Coventry, CV1 (0223 63064). Sat: Doors 8.30pm, show 8.30pm, 24.50 (25.50 concs). As Glasgow, above.

Compiled by Karl Knight

Items for inclusion should be sent at least 10 days before publication to Tony Patrick, Preview, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's selection of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

THE CITADEL: Polymath, grimly humorous Algerian tale of a young Arab villager forced to marry. Metro (01-457 0757).

THE HOUSE OF BERNARDO ALBA (15): Lorea's play about a widow and her five daughters, fine acting, but tedious clients. Premiere (01-439 4470).

DUST IN THE WIND: Tribulations of teenagers in the big city; affectionate 1988 film by the Taiwanese master Hou Hsiao-hsien. ICA Cinema (01-530 3647).

A SHORT FILM ABOUT LOVE (15): Krzysztof Kieslowski's powerful and eerie tale of voyeurism and sexual desire. Premiere (01-439 4470) Gate (01-727 4043).

CURRENT

♦ ALWAYS (PG): Spielberg's plush but pointless remake of A Guy Named Joe with Richard Dreyfuss as a dead pilot returning to earth. Cannon: Baker Street (01-835 9772) Fulham Road (01-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 8861) Whiteleys (01-792 3303/3324) Plaza (01-437 9929).

♦ BLAZE (15): Paul Newman as politician Earl Long, defiantly in love with a stripper. Coloured-Americans. Warner West End (01-439 0791).

♦ BORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY (15): Dynamic anti-Vietnam epic from Oliver Stone, with Tom Cruise excellent as paraplegic Ron Kovic. Cannon: Baker Street (01-835 9772) Fulham Road (01-370 2636) Empire (01-437 9899) Screen on the Green (01-226 3529) Whiteleys (01-792 3303).

♦ CELIA (15): Powerful Australian portrait of a rebellious child in a restrictive society. Striking debut by director Ann Turner. Cannon: Tottenham Court Road (01-836 6148) Metro (01-437 0757) Odéon Kensington (01-602 8644/5).

CINEMA PARADISO (PG): Giuseppe Tornatore's nostalgic tale of a small Sicilian cinema; a hugely appealing salute to the movies. Curzon Mayfair (01-465 8865).

A CITY OF SADNESS (15): Hou Hsiao-hsien's magisterial fresco of life in turbulent post-war Taiwan. Renzo (01-837 8402).

♦ DANCIN' THRU THE DARK (15): Willy Russell's thin but bawdier comedy-musical set in a Liverpool dance hall. Cannon: Chelsea (01-362 5066) Tottenham Court Road (01-836 6148) Warner (01-439 0791).

♦ DRIVING MISS DAISY (U): Jessica Tandy as the prickly Southern lady with a black chauffeur (Morgan Freeman). Cannon: Fulham Road (01-370 2636) Mileage (01-235 4225) Screen on the Hill (01-435 3368) Warner (01-439 0791) Whiteleys (01-792 3303/3324).

ENCOUNTER AT RAVEN'S GATE (15): Muddled science-fiction from young Australian film makers, with some decent visual effects. Prince Charles (01-437 6181).

♦ THE FABULOUS BAKER BOYS (15): Highly diverting fireworks from a blonde singer (Michelle Pfeiffer) and two cocktail pianists (Jeff and Beau Bridges). Odéon: Haymarket (01-836 7687) Kensington (01-602 8644/5) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5805) Screen on Baker Street (01-835 2772) Whiteleys (01-792 3303/3324).

♦ FAMILY BUSINESS: Curate's egg comedy-drama about a family of crooks (Sean Connery, Dustin Hoffman, Matthew Broderick). Cannon: Chelsea (01-362 5066) Tottenham Court Road (01-836 6148) Warner (01-439 0791).

♦ IN REPERTORY

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE (01-226 3335): The Mission; E.A. Dupont's atmospheric British silent, Piccadilly, with Anna May Wong.

PHOENIX (01 883 2233): Days Around double bill: The Decade of the American Empire, Jesus of Montreal (until Weds).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

TABELLUNG (a) An official calendar in the Roman Empire, and thence in royal and ancient France until the Revolution, from tabella a tablet or tablet.

EWEST (c) Close at hand, adjacent, contemporaneous, apparently from the Old English eadwe, a sea-weed which is periodically thrown upon the coast in darkest Ayrshire by the sea-tide.

PETRARY (a) A medieval military engine for discharging stones, from the medieval Latin petra, a stone.

VAREIC (b) Kelp or wrack, from the Old Scandinavian vrek, "The most ordinary of these seaweeds has been a sea-weed which is periodically thrown upon the coast in darkest Ayrshire by the sea-tide."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Nikolic (White) — Maric (Black), Vrnjaka Banja 1965. Black to play and win. Solution in tomorrow's Times.

Solution to yesterday's position: 1... Rxd6! 2 Rxd6 Rf3+ 3 gxf3 Bf1 mate.

NEW LONDON DRY LINE WGS 434 0075 CC 404 4075 OPEN 379 4444 (10.15) Tue

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NEW LONDON DRY LINE WGS 434 0075 CC 404 4075 OPEN 379

De Klerk orders up troops in crackdown

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

PRESIDENT de Klerk of South Africa has ordered a countrywide crackdown on violence and warned yesterday that it would result in more people being detained under the state of emergency.

He told a special joint session of the white, Coloured (mixed race) and Indian chambers of Parliament in Cape Town that the police and the Army had been ordered to act firmly to cope with the upsurge of violence, and said that a co-ordinated security plan was being put into effect immediately in strife-torn Natal province.

Troop reinforcements had already been sent there, although Mr de Klerk did not say how many. But he implied that there would be greater use of troops, most of them white conscripts, to quell unrest. This is partly because the

police force — which is seriously undermanned because of a high level of resignations — cannot cope.

A new police reservist air wing made up of privately owned aircraft flown by unpaid, volunteer reservists would also be deployed, Mr de Klerk said.

He said high security operations would involve police and troops manning roadblocks and monitoring the situation from the air.

Only a few hours earlier, Mr Nelson Mandela, Vice-President of the African National Congress, had made an appointment from a public telephone to meet Mr de Klerk in Thursday to try to put negotiations on South Africa's future back on the road.

Within minutes of arriving at Durban airport from Johannesburg to see the effects of the violence in Natal which has claimed at least 50 black lives during the past week, Mr Mandela put through a call from the inquiries desk to Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of Constitutional Development.

After fumbling in his pockets for change to pay for the call, and with reporters hanging over his shoulder, Mr Mandela arranged to meet Mr de Klerk in a short and amiable conversation. Mr Mandela and Dr Viljoen agreed that the meeting would be attended by three advisers from each side.

Mr Mandela's move came 48 hours after the ANC executive called off exploratory talks with the Government scheduled for April 11, ostensibly over the killing of demonstrators by police in Sebokeng township near Johannesburg a week ago.

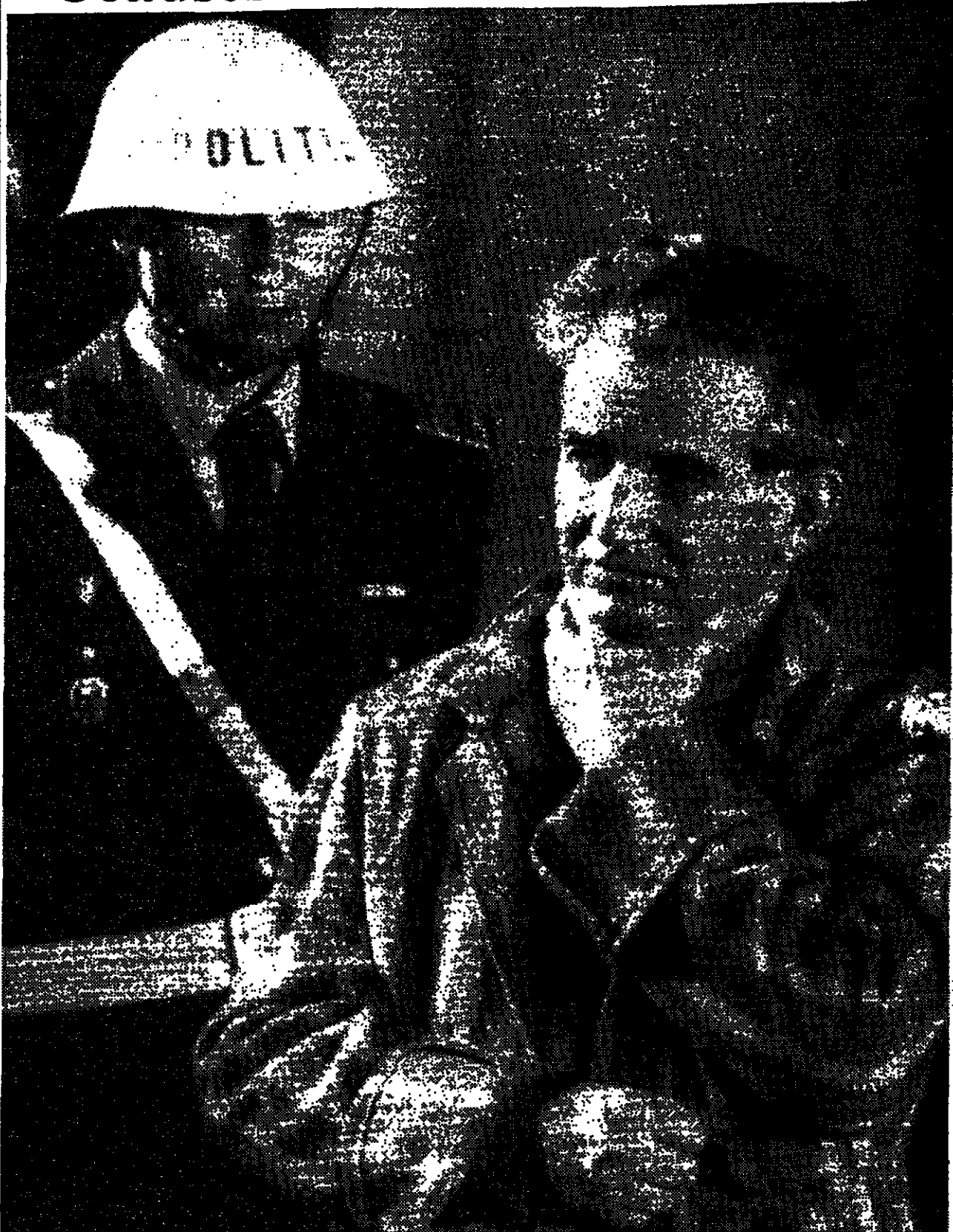
Mr Mandela cancelled a meeting he was to have had yesterday with Chief Mangosuthu Buthezi, head of the Inkatha movement, but said he was hoping to rearrange it.

Mr de Klerk told Parliament that the cancellation of the April 11 talks had taken him completely by surprise. "I do not agree with the reasons given as sufficient grounds for the cancellation of the meeting," he added.

Mr de Klerk said the decision to use police and troops to try to quell the unrest has the backing of anti-apartheid organizations such as the Black Sash, which until now have been fiercely opposed to security force intervention.

Mr de Klerk has thus been able to order the measures confident that there will not be the outcry that such action has caused in the past.

Ceausescu's brother in the dock



NICOLAE Ceausescu, closely resembling his elder brother with the same name, the executed dictator of Romania, went on trial in a military court in Bucharest yesterday, accused of killing seven people in the December uprising.

In rough woolen grey-striped prisoner's uniform with a gold pin in the top pocket, the former head of the Bucharest Securitate training school related his role

in the events of December 21 when troops in Bucharest clashed with demonstrators against his brother's regime. He said he took refuge in a barracks and escaped by rope from a window.

Ceausescu, 66 today, is the first member of the former ruling family to face trial since his brother and his wife Elena were executed on Christmas Day. He faces life imprisonment if found

guilty of the charges — "aggravated murder", attempted murder, possessing a gun and ammunition without a permit, and "instigating unfilled genocide", meaning that secret police cadres under his command refused to obey an alleged order to fire on protesters.

Mr Vasile Sorocanu, his lawyer, said he would plead guilty only to illegal possession of ammunition. (Reuters)

Political sketch

Reasonable Roy spoils Tory fun

ROY Hattersley came to the House yesterday to give the official Opposition's reaction to Saturday's rioting in London. The Home Secretary was to make a statement and Hattersley was to respond. Tories awaited eagerly.

Mr Hattersley was reserved, calm and statesmanlike. His remarks were bipartisan, constructive. There was no attempt to make political capital.

And he put himself firmly on the side of law and order. Nothing that he said could be interpreted as encouragement to law-breakers, or even as sympathy for them in their folly. In short, Roy Hattersley was magnificently helpful.

Bitter was the disappointment on the Government side. Saturday's riot had held out the promise of a day of deliverance, floating heavenward from the nation throughout. Sunday, you might have missed 372 quiet little "thank-yous" from 372 Conservative MPs. "At last," they had thought, "a distraction from our torment!"

Great has been the torment. Vilification in the local press and mountains of angry letters from constituents about the poll tax, broadsides from businessmen and wingers from the local Conservative Association about the poll tax, buttonholing from insufferable local councillors about the poll tax — and, at Westminster, a wretched atmosphere of recrimination and intrigue.

Then, on Saturday, relief seemed at hand. All you had to do was make one tiny leap: from the fact that a handful of Labour MPs (contrary to Labour policy) advocate withholding poll tax, to the supposition that the entire Parliamentary Labour Party are hell-bent on a nationwide campaign of assault, arson, looting, and (worst of all) cruelty to police horses...

Mr Thatcher had made a splendid start over the weekend. A statement by Home Secretary David "chickadee" Waddington would carry the attack forward. If Tory backbenchers were not wearing football scarves, there was still no doubt that

the song in their hearts was "Here we go, here we go, here we go!"

One minor problem remained. It was vital that Labour, not the Conservatives, should pick the fight. But there should surely be no difficulty about that.

Waddington would make a magisterial statement, manifestly attacking the law-breakers, not the Labour Party. Then (you could rely on it) Hattersley would get up and say, "I am all very difficult, and on the one hand it was probably unwise for people to set fire to South Africa House, but on the other hand I have no doubt been starved of love in their childhood and stunted by Tory education policies."

Roy Hattersley did nothing of the kind. Essentially he echoed the Home Secretary and did so with every indication of sincerity.

"In a democratic society," he declared, "no cause can justify such conduct."

"Come on," was every Tory's silent whisper, "say 'but'."

"It is literally intolerable..." Hattersley continued. "Please say 'but', Roy" — the prayer was answered.

There was no but. He set down, his anger unqualified by even a minor adjectival clause, let alone a defence of criminality.

Roy had spoiled the fun. Out of pity for the Tories, perhaps, Glasgow's George Galloway (Lab) told us it was going to be "a long, hot summer", and Dave Nellist of Coventry hinted that the riots might have something to do with hatred of the poll tax, as well as the "sheer wickedness" which had emerged as the Home Secretary's interesting diagnosis. But it was no good. These were only juniors.

Marilyn Rees tried to help, too, donning the mantle of Peter Simple's Dr Heinz Kluck ("We are all guilty"). But Rees is only a Labour ex-Home Secretary and too nice to serve as a substitute demon. Roy was supposed to be the villain. And Roy wasn't playing.

Matthew Parris

Hong Kong warning by Tebbit

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

MR Norman Tebbit has warned Conservative MPs that Chinese retaliation against the Government's plan to give passports to 50,000 Hong Kong families will cause a mass exodus to Britain after the colony is handed over to Peking in 1997.

The controversial Bill to be published tomorrow is intended to promote stability in Hong Kong by giving its key people the insurance policy of British citizenship in the run-up to the transfer of sovereignty. Ministers maintain that many of the estimated 225,000 people affected will not choose to exercise their right to settle in Britain.

But Mr Tebbit, who is leading a powerful backbench rebellion against the measure, has written to about 300 Tory MPs arguing that the ministers' scheme to "anchor" essential workers in the country is doomed to failure.

He also says it undermines the "spirit and purpose" of the 1984 treaty between Britain and China guaranteeing the colony's future in its present form for 50 years.

By showing such a lack of confidence in the treaty, the Government risks triggering an even larger outflow of Hong Kong Chinese denied passports, he says.

Mr Mandela cancelled a meeting he was to have had yesterday with Chief Mangosuthu Buthezi, head of the Inkatha movement, but said he was hoping to rearrange it.

Mr de Klerk told Parliament that the cancellation of the April 11 talks had taken him completely by surprise. "I do not agree with the reasons given as sufficient grounds for the cancellation of the meeting," he added.

Mr de Klerk said the decision to use police and troops to try to quell the unrest has the backing of anti-apartheid organizations such as the Black Sash, which until now have been fiercely opposed to security force intervention.

Mr de Klerk has thus been able to order the measures confident that there will not be the outcry that such action has caused in the past.

Saddam threatens to 'destroy half of Israel' in response to attack

Continued from page 1

cal weapons," the President said on Iraqi radio, adding: "I swear to God, we will let our fire eat half of Israel if it tries to wage anything against Iraq."

Despite the rhetoric, his speech seems to have been motivated by fears that Israel is planning strikes against

Iraqi installations, and the President insisted that his stance was purely defensive. "We are not carrying the banner of challenge, but if anyone challenges us, we will find us harder than a diamond," he said.

Later he added: "We have not and will not commit aggression against anyone but

if an insect tries to advance towards Iraq or wage aggression against it, we will cut its tail from the back, its head from the front and leave only its middle."

Iraq has accused the West of a campaign to pave the way for military strikes against Iraq reminiscent of Israel's 1981 bombing of an unfi-

ished nuclear reactor near Baghdad.

After the nuclear triggers were discovered last week, several Israeli and US politicians called for tough action against Iraq to prevent it developing nuclear weapons.

Jerusalem: In a tough and swift response, Israel yesterday accused President Sad-

dam of pursuing "irresponsible and criminal designs", and warned that Israel would "know how to defend itself" (Richard Owen writes).

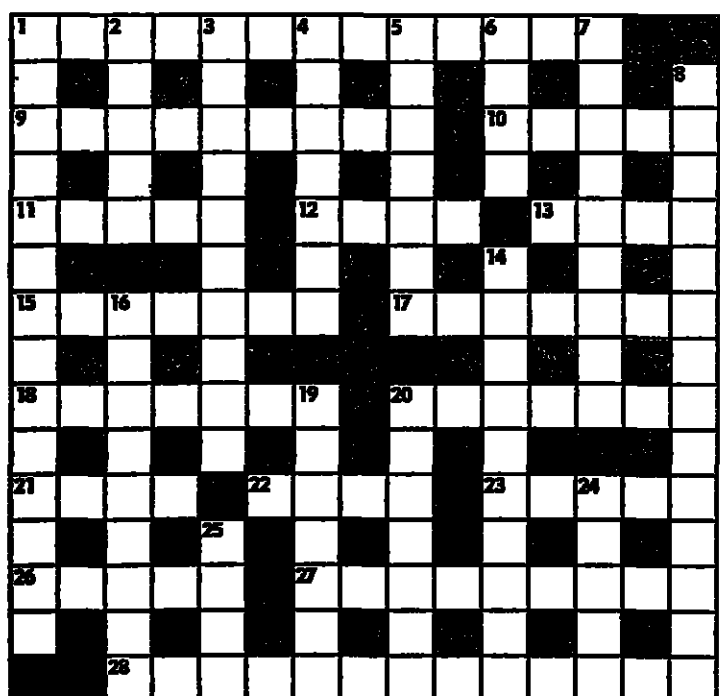
A statement from the Foreign Ministry said President Saddam was "boasting with impunity about his murderous chemical weapons" and was clearly proud of Iraq's

"capacity to commit crimes against humanity".

The statement said Iraq had already used chemical weapons in the recent past against innocent civilians, including its own citizens.

This was "a reminder of the threat with which Israel is faced", the statement continued.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,258



- ACROSS**
- Where, in Rugby, Tom Brown was embarking on a game? (8-5)
 - Flighty type out of humour with Sikes, perhaps (9)
 - Fastener air force cadets held in left hand (5)
 - Boredom of English upper-class shown in rejection of pub (5)
 - Husband consumed with enmity (4)
 - Belgian possibly appears to toil endlessly (4)
 - Blinkered Iberian writer given the chop (7)
 - Very proper girl — and a good-looking one (10)
 - With a lot of good fortune a bird finds food (7)
 - Church body rejected member backing this doctrine (7)
 - Spectators' manner of walking, say (4)
- DOWN**
- One scientist carrying damaged crate for another (14)
 - Fruit, or a sort of grain (5)
 - A rum business, perhaps, operating this manufactory (10)
 - One in lower case? Not at all (7)
 - Crown sick, Tongan leader during dance (7)
 - Unlucky, or wanting in universal splendour (4)
 - Frauding old customs in Gateshead (9)
 - Game southern girl outside Sussex resort taking drink? (5-9)
 - Bathroom in south of France, or originally in Roman court (10)
 - When at sea, curbs tea clippers (9)
 - One-time politician in the grip of drink, for instance (7)
 - Box under bottom of blade to catch the grass (7)
 - In parts of Madagascar, the weird climbing mammal appears (5)
 - State cut prompts expression of concern (4)

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

TABELLION

a. A little table

b. An official scrivener

c. The wedding sickness

EWEST

a. From East to West

b. Having the most sheep

c. Near

PETRARY

a. A stone thrower

b. An alien

c. Stealing by finding

VAREC

a. A dilated vein

b. Seaweed

c. A Siberian chieftain

Answers on page 22, column 4

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0800 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks
C. London (within N & S Circles) 731
M-ways/roads M4-M11 732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 733
M-ways/roads Dartford 734
M-ways/roads M25-M4 735
M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks
National motorways 737
West Country 738
Wales 739
Midlands 740
East Angles 741
North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

The following clues appeared incorrectly in puzzle No 18,257 and should have read as follows:
4 Flier from Sheerness (4).
7 Sound from organ rising in tempo (8).

Concise crossword, page 22

WEATHER

Northern England and Wales will have a bright start with frequent rain or snow showers in the West and North. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be much colder with frequent wintry showers. Eastern and southern England will start bright and dry with rain or sleet later. It will be colder and windy, especially in the North. Outlook: Cold with frosts and wintry showers.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=dizzle; l=fog; s=sun; st=sleet; snow; f=fair; c=cloud; w=wind

	C	F		C	F		
Aleppo	17	63	c	Moscow	15	59	f
Albortri	15	59	f	Nairobi	19	66	f
Algeria	18	64	c	Paris	10	50	c
Amman	17	63	c	Madrid	10	50	c
Amman	17	63	c	Mexico	24	75	c
Amman	17	63	c	Moscow	15	59	f
Amman	17	63	c	Nairobi	19	66	f
Amman	17	63	c	Paris	10	50	c
Amman	17	63	c	Madrid	10	50	c
Amman	17	63	c	Mexico	24	75	c
Amman	17	63	c	Moscow	15	59	f
Amman	17	63	c	Nairobi	19	66	f
Amman	17	63	c	Paris	10	50	c
Amman	17	63	c	Madrid	10	50	c
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Amman	17	63	c	Mexico	24	75	c
Amman	17	63	c	Moscow	15	59	f
Amman	17	63	c	Nairobi	19	66	f
Amman	17	63	c	Paris	10	50	

● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-31
● LAW 32-33
● SPORT 39-44

BUSINESS

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6305 (-0.0155)
W German mark
2.7759 (-0.0027)
Exchange index
87.4 (-0.5)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1748.1 (-20.6)
FT-SE 100
2221.6 (-26.3)
USM (Datastream)
141.03 (-1.15)
Market report, page 29

Inchcape at £176m

INCHCAPE, the vehicle importer and overseas trader, reported a 19 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £176 million for 1989 on sales 20 per cent ahead at £2.95 billion.

Earnings per share rose 17 per cent to 28.3p and the final dividend is to rise by 0.25p to 6.5p, leaving the total 19 per cent ahead at 11p.

Temps, page 26

Lucas split

Lucas Industries is raising its interim dividend by 20 per cent to 8.4p on interim pre-tax profits of £80.1 million (£72.4 million). It plans a four-way share split and is making a warrant issue on a one-for-10 basis.

Temps, page 26

Spirax ahead

Spirax-Sarco Engineering reported annual pre-tax profits up from £22.4 million to £25.6 million. It is raising its final dividend from 7.5p to 8.7p on earnings per share up from 19.0p to 21.6p.

Temps, page 26

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones 2857.16 (-20.05)
Nikkei Ave 28002.07 (-1978.38)
Hong Kong 2894.70 (-63.28)
Amsterdam 1144.4 (-2.0)
Sydney 1507.1 (-1.25)
Frankfurt DAX 1931.30 (-37.25)
Brussels 6091.98 (-42.68)
Paris CAC 3222.1 (-1.25)
Zurich SMI 581.5 (-4.4)
London
FT-A All-Share 1103.10 (-11.84)
FT-100 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-250 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-1000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-1500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-2000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-2500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-3000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-3500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-4000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-4500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-5000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-5500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-6000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-6500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-7000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-7500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-8000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-8500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-9000 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-9500 1202.22 (-13.50)
FT-10000 1202.22 (-13.50)
Recent issues Page 26
Closing prices Page 31

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:
Liberty 4350 (+110p)
Lon & Edin Trust 2170 (+42p)
Lon & Edin 6% Cv 1470 (+30p)
FALLS:
Aldi 4350 (-10p)
Banksia 4350 (-10p)
Hammermill 7000 (-10p)
Mecca 1100 (-11p)
Hardanger 6000 (-25p)
Saurer 6750 (-11p)
Richmond 5300 (-15p)
Inchcape 2850 (-15p)
Johnson Matthey 2750 (-11p)
Midsummer 1480 (-12p)
New Corp 4820 (-15p)
Pearson 6770 (-17p)
Thomson Corp 7450 (-20p)
Davies & Newman 3850 (-40p)
J Hatfield 1900p (-17p)
Closing prices Page 31
SEAG Volume 527.4m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 15.5-15.75%
3-month eligible bills 14.75-14.9%
US Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 8.75%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.75-7.79%
30-year bonds 9.875-9.88%

CURRENCIES

London New York
£: \$1.6305
€: DM2.7759
S: Sfr2.4522
F: FF6.3306
Y: Yen259.17
E: Index 87.4
ECU £0.79148 SDR £0.781837
ECU1.352912 £ SDR1.262686

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$368.00 pm \$368.40
close \$368.75-369.25 (2226.00-225.5)
New York:
Comex \$368.40-369.90*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (May) ... \$18.4504 (\$18.30)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.26	2.11
Canada \$	2.26	2.11
Denmark Kr	6.46	6.46
France F	1.975	1.975
Germany DM	2.26	2.11
Italy L	2.26	2.11
Japan Yen	274.50	268.00
Netherlands Gld	3.24	3.08
Portugal Esc	207.75	207.75
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.64
Sweden Kr	10.46	9.85
Switzerland Fr	2.66	2.40
US \$	1.71	1.51
Yugoslavia Din	Refer	Refer

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclay's Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 120.2 (February)

Dealers left reeling in Tokyo's second biggest one-day fall Nikkei slumps 1,978 points

By John Bell, City Editor

FRESH waves of panic selling sent share prices crashing in Tokyo's second-biggest one-day fall on Monday.

The Nikkei index dived 1,978.38 points to close at 28,002.07, a slump topped only by the 3,836-point nosedive on Black Monday in October 1987.

Monday's fall of 6.6 per cent was the eighth-worst in percentage terms in the history of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

Japan is in the grip of a crisis of confidence over its stock market. Since they started shrivelling at the beginning of this year, Tokyo share prices have lost more than 28 per cent of their worth, more than the value of all the shares on the London Stock Exchange.

The yen, once every dealer's favourite banknote, is now one of the sick men of the world's currency markets.

Many Japanese, who know only that their stock market has soared for a dozen years in a row, pushing up share prices eightfold in the process, are puzzled. Overseas investors,

businessmen and policymakers are beginning to fear that the severity of the slide in share prices will have international repercussions — especially if the market falls much further before it settles down.

The worry now is that the sudden loss of almost a third of the value of investors' holdings will lead to slower economic growth and a cut in personal spending. This would be bad news for the world's industrialized nations, Japan's leading trading partners.

"There will be some sort of wealth effect, of that there is no doubt," said Mr Mark Bury, economist at EZW. "But it is too early and too complex a situation to be specific about the details just yet," he added.

Some brokers predicted that the magnitude of Monday's nosedive might have a knock-on effect on stock markets overseas. "The psychology of the market has been utterly and completely shattered," said Mr Jeff Uscher, deputy general manager of the Tokyo branch of Smith New Court. In fact, some traders are now

speculating that the Nikkei index could slip through support levels of 28,000 and continue down as low as 26,000.

Markets fear that the only cure for Japan's excessive monetary growth, the main engine behind the rise in share and property prices, and the weakness of the currency is yet higher interest rates. Three-month money rates at 7 1/2 per cent are painfully high by Japanese standards. A further one-point rise, which some see as essential to protect the yen, would take rates back to levels last seen for any length of time in the early 1980s when the second oil shock rocked Japan's economy.

The yen ended slightly lower against the dollar in London.

It closed at 158.85, after having nearly reached the psychologically-important 160.00 yen level at one point. It had opened at 158.20. Buoyed by uncertainty over German monetary developments, the dollar had a good day against the mark too, gaining 1.2 pfennig to end at DM1.7000.



Struggle to get out: frantic dealers try to offload shares at the height of the panic selling yesterday

US markets and West Coast real estate the first to be hit

From John Durie, New York

WEST Coast real estate and the US stock market are likely to be the first to be affected by the financial upheaval in Japan. But US analysts are only expecting a mild downturn in these markets.

Mr Robert Hormatz, vice chairman, of Goldman Sachs's international division, said: "We are approaching the inevitable point at which the big Japanese insurance companies will have to bring a portion of their offshore investments back home to pay policy-holders in Japan."

Mr David Hale, an economist with Keuper Financial Services, said: "The huge \$15 billion capital outflow from Japan in February will mean there will be some reaction in Japan which will reduce this outflow this month."

"This will be mildly negative for Pacific real estate and will have some effect on Japanese equity investment in the US," he said.

Japanese equity investment in the US has been relatively

small this year particularly compared with its investment in the West German equities market.

But US bonds, according to Mr Hormatz, offers Japanese investors with good asset and currency opportunities which will mean the share market will be hit before the bond market in the United States.

An analyst with one of the leading Tokyo financial houses in New York, who declined to be named, said: "Much will depend on this week's G7 meeting in Paris, and the Japanese will be hoping for some announcement on exchange rates."

The analyst said: "Japanese investment in US bonds will continue while the present expectation remains that the yen will weaken further against the US dollar."

Headed: "I don't think the recent events in Tokyo will affect purchases of US equities."

Mr David Shulman, a property analyst, of Salomon

Brothers, said: "In the short term, Japanese investment in US real estate will fall."

"Rising Japanese interest rates, which have affected both the yen and the Japanese stock market, have combined in such a way that Japanese real estate investment in the US had to fall, the recent big falls on the Nikkei are certainly not going to help the situation," Mr Shulman said.

While most US analysts are expecting portfolio investment in the US will be affected by the recent Japanese problems, they all say strategic investment will continue virtually unhindered.

Big property investments, such as the recent Mitsubishi Estate \$780 million purchase of the Rockefeller Centre, in New York, and the present Tobu department store joint \$1.2 billion bid for Saks of Fifth Avenue will continue because they are more long-term investments.

Mr Hormatz said: "There are two forces at play. On the

one hand, Japanese institutes have a much stronger incentive to invest abroad at present, but on the other, at some point the fall in the value of domestic investments will require the insurance companies to bring money back home to pay policy-holders.

"In the short run, the latter force will emerge the stronger, which will affect the more speculative investment and investment in foreign equity markets," he said.

Mr Hale said in political terms it was important to note that many senior Japanese businessmen are now blaming the present troubles on the strong Japanese support for the US dollar two years ago, which allowed the US government breathing space in financing its budget deficit.

The Japanese may be looking for some favours to be returned. But neither West Germany nor the US are in a position to ease domestic interest rates to support the yen.

Japanese buyers take long view on British property

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

JAPANESE property investment in Britain, much of it in London but recently showing signs of moving out into regional schemes, has been growing strongly over the past two years.

Leading firms of chartered surveyors in the capital see no signs of the investment wave ebbing so far.

The Japanese accounted for just over 40 per cent of all property investment in the City of London last year — £1.065 billion out of a total £2.5 billion — according to estimates by Jones Lang Wootton, the chartered surveyor and property consultant.

Mr John Stephen, a partner at Jones Lang Wootton, said: "The UK property market for the moment is for the long-term investor. It is difficult to find short-term capital gains over the next two years."

"But, on a long-term basis, it is possible to buy properties at prices which offer historically high yields. I would expect Japanese investment to continue." At Healey & Baker,

another leading London chartered surveyor and property consultant, Mr Rodney Pilcher, one of the partners, said: "The Japanese tend to buy trophy buildings in prime locations, with their life companies especially taking a long-term view."

"I would expect Japanese investment in Britain in the property sector to continue at the present levels. If there is any constriction it is likely to be shortage of the right properties rather than lack of resources."

Japanese investment has been setting the pace in London rather than that from the United States or even from Scandinavia, where the easing of Swedish exchange controls unleashed much investment into British property.

Among Japanese life company purchases since the beginning of last year have been Dai-ichi's £40 million deal on the Randworth Centre in Wilson Street, Yasuda's £140 million acquisition of Riverplate House, Finsbury Circus, and Asahi's £118 mil-

lion purchase of Leadenhall Court.

There have been a spate of property company acquisitions in central London among them the biggest property deal by the Japanese so far.

This was the EIE acquisition of Britannic House West for almost £200 million. Mitsui Real Estate bought 20 Old Bailey for approaching £140 million.

Most recently Mitsubishi Estate Company, one of the largest Japanese property companies, which bought the Rockefeller Centre in New York, has been reported as taking about a third share in London's Paternoster Square development.

The others involved in the scheme are Greystar, the developer, and America's Park Tower Realty. Japanese involvement outside London includes two joint ventures, one in Birmingham which includes Shimizu and another in Glasgow in which Kumagai Gumi has an interest.

Leaks prompt Panel inquiry into LET bid

By Angela Mackay

AN INVESTIGATION by the Takeover Panel has begun into the £300 million agreed takeover of London & Edinburgh Trust by SPP, Sweden's biggest life insurance and pension group, after complaints that details were leaked at the weekend.

Advisers and public relations consultants for both sides denied knowledge of the leaks. The Panel was called in at the request of several parties, including the SPP and LET. The Stock Exchange said it was examining trading in LET shares before the bid.

The parties confirmed the deal yesterday after LET revealed 10 days ago it was in bid talks. At that stage, shares in the British property and investment group soared 34p to 172p.

LET's shares closed at 217p, up 42p, after the formal announcement. Analysts saw it as a good deal for LET and two of its biggest shareholders, Mr John Beckwith and his



Hertzberg: no break-up

brother, Peter, who held 24 per cent and stood to receive almost £40 million each.

SPP offered 220p cash for each LET share plus a special dividend of 3.5p a share. There is also a loan-note alternative.

The group also announced record pre-tax profits of £67.7 million in 1989, up 36 per cent. Fully diluted net assets per share rose from 143p to 177p a share. Mr John Beckwith, the chairman, said

this meant the offer was a 24 per cent premium over net asset value.

Mr John Beckwith and Mr Peter Beckwith, the vice-chairman, have opted to stay with the merged group despite their large payouts. Both are on three-year contracts and said they would concentrate on building the enlarged group's European portfolio.

Mr Peter Beckwith said they realized the company needed a "big sister or brother" after LET failed to secure three big transactions in Paris — the development of the Shell, Philips, and BP buildings.

Mr Krister Hertzberg, SPP's managing director, said his group, which has assets of £13.8 billion, had been expanding since Sweden lifted exchange controls on overseas investments. There were no plans to break up LET or sell the 36 per cent stake in the property investment group Runland Trust.

Comment, page 27

Falling yen hits sterling

By Colin Narborough

Economies Correspondent

THE pound and shares fell sharply in response to Tokyo's slide and more bearish sentiment for the British economy after the riots in London.

The tumbling yen triggered turbulence that hit sterling, sending it 0.9 of a point lower overnight on its trade-weighted index to open at \$7.9. It was 2.15 cents lower at \$1.6240.

But comforting credit and retail sales figures, plus confusion over German monetary union, allowed the pound to close 87.4 on a trade-weighted basis. It closed 1.55 cents down at \$1.6305 and was about a quarter of a pfennig lower at DM2.7759. The FT-SE 100 ended 23.6 points lower at 2,221.6.

The Bank of France demonstrated its confidence in the French economy by cutting its key rates by a quarter of a point to 9.75 per cent and 10.50 per cent.

Credit slows, page 26

Few rules — but Continentals must use English only

Argyll joins club of Euro retailers

By Gillian Bowditch

ONE of Sainsbury's most experienced buyers, Mr Roy Heath, has been dispatched to Switzerland and is currently looking at European petfoods and canned vegetables. This may not sound like pioneering work, but other British food retailers are watching Mr Heath and his petfood research with boggle-eyed interest.

Mr Heath is Argyll's representative at Associated Marketing Services, a mini European community made up of food retailers from nine different countries. AMS aims to look at different product areas, talk to suppliers and see where efficiencies can be achieved.

The nine partners in the venture are: Argyll, Ahold from the Netherlands, Casino from France, Dansk Supermarked from Denmark, ICA from Sweden, Kesko from Finland, la Rinascente from Italy, Mercadona from Spain and Migros from Switzerland.

Each partner will send one co-ordinator to the Swiss office and the central overheads will be shared. The idea is that Mr Heath and his colleagues take a product area and gather information about it from each member of the group. If it is discovered that a member's petfood supply is erratic and inefficient that member can be introduced to a more efficient supplier and a percentage

of any savings would go to AMS to be shared out among the partners proportionally to the amount of petfood they buy.

The group will also consider co-ordinating advertising and promotional programmes, sharing the costs of test-marketing and standardizing new products and packaging.

AMS does not intend to use its combined buying power to squeeze the suppliers, indeed with combined sales of £27 billion, it would quickly run into EC competition law if it tried to do so.

The organization works on trust with few written rules. The main one being, everyone works in English.

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TEMPUS

Inchcape needs to find new routes

SIR George Turnbull, managing director and chairman of Inchcape, has presided over a striking recovery at the car importer and overseas trader. In the first five years under his direction, earnings per share grew at an annual rate of 35 per cent and dividends by 19 per cent.

In 1989, Inchcape came down with a bump. Although dividends were still up 19 per cent to 11p, earnings per share were only 17 per cent ahead at 28.3p, half the previous average. And while pre-tax profits were reported as being 19 per cent up at £176 million, currency movements flattened the figures by £15 million and there were also £15 million property disposal gains.

In the hushes possible light, then, underlying profits rose 2 per cent. And however one measures Inchcape's achievements, it is hard to escape the impression that the group has one super business — distributing Toyota cars — and lots of also-rans, such as sea and timber.

Half Inchcape's profits come from motor distribution and 130,000 of the 200,000 cars it sold last year were Toyotas. The potential of the marque is suggested by the consistent rise in trading profits from continental Europe, from £6 million in 1985 to £10 million last year, almost all of which came from its Toyota concessions for Belgium and Greece.

The relationship with Ja-

pan's biggest motor manufacturer was confirmed in January. Inchcape's Toyota (GB) subsidiary was then granted the British concession for a further 18 years and the Japanese company took a 4.7 per cent stake in Inchcape. The price of agreement, unfortunately, was the sale of a 51 per cent stake in Toyota (GB) to Toyota by 1998.

The deal left Inchcape un-geared and with analysts expecting profits of £200 million and earnings of 30.8p this year, the shares at 26.5p, down 18p, are on a prospective p/e ratio of nine. That will look cheap only if Inchcape develops a more decisive strategy for its non-motor interests.

Lucas

THE market was left with mixed feelings about Lucas Industries' interim pre-tax profits, 10.6 per cent up at £80.1 million, on sales 14.4 per cent up to £1.18 billion. But for an £8.9 million (£4.5 million) half-time interest charge burden, results would have been more respectable.

The British market, from which Lucas — led by chairman Tony Gill — is successfully diversifying, is patchy and difficult with home aerospace profits up but domestic automotive profits down. Europe bounded ahead on all fronts.

There were plusses and minuses on property, exchange rate movements and



Cup that cheers chairman Tony Gill, left, talks to Bob Brown, Lucas industrial managing director, during a break at yesterday's meeting with analysts

reorganization costs, and if Lucas is to keep the profits momentum moving forward then it has to continue to press ahead abroad. Add-on acquisitions in Europe and North America should not be ruled out.

At home, Lucas has to squeeze yet more profitability out of operations. The UK automotive labour force is likely to be further trimmed, and industry-related strike action, which had some impact in the first half, will still be evident in the second.

However, the balance sheet

remains respectable. Gearing is only likely to nudge 15 per cent, come year end, compared with 9 per cent last year. The message from the one warrant-for-10 shares issue is that no rights issue is planned. The warrants are exercisable at 180p a split share between June 1993 and June 1995.

The four-way share split, coupled with a 20 per cent increase in the interim dividend to 8.4p a share should keep the faithful happy. And year-end forecasts have been raised to above £200 million from last year's actual £187.1 million.

Possible £210 million profits put the shares at 617p, down 4p, on a prospective rating of 7.1. Hold, but do not chase.

Spirax-Sarco

"EXTREMELY well-managed... a world leader in a growing market with recession-proof products... as safe a stock as there will ever be" — what more in the way of City platitudes could any company hope for at the announcement of its year-end results?

After 22 consecutive years of strong growth in trading profits, Spirax-Sarco Engineering, the world's largest manufacturer of energy-saving steam traps, shows no signs of putting a foot wrong.

Spirax, which can only benefit from the green tide as its industrial clients bow to pressure to conserve fuel and cut CO₂ emissions, is set for another year of strong growth.

Pre-tax profits, up 14.2 per cent to £25.6 million for 1989 and ahead of City expectations, should reach £27-£28 million in 1990. Margins, maintained at 19 per cent in 1989, should fall, while earnings per share, up 13.7 per cent to 21.6p, should reach 23p in 1990.

The total dividend is up 16 per cent to 8.7p (7.5p). "Steam is used to process just about everything. As long as demand for rice, crisps, tyres, petrol, clothing and paper goes up, so does the demand for steam," said Mr Chris Tappin, the chairman and chief executive.

Spirax, now the market leader in steam traps in North America, where its profits grew 50 per cent to £5.9 million, is set to benefit this year from the worldwide introduction of several new products.

Shares in Spirax, trading above the engineering sector average, were unchanged at 234p, standing on a prospective p/e of 10.5 times. Worth holding.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Laporte to expand in US and Far East

LAPORTE, the acquisitive specialty chemicals manufacturer, is to expand its electronics chemicals interests in the US and the Far East with the purchase of the electrochemicals division of Plastic Specialties & Technologies for \$39.8 million in cash. The division supplies the printed circuit board industry. It is expected to make profits of not less than \$4 million before tax in the year to July, on sales of \$26 million. The assets being acquired are valued at \$6.3 million.

The market for electronics chemicals is growing by 9 per cent a year in the US and 15 per cent a year in the Far East. Last month, Laporte paid £23 million cash for Rediffa Savilles, the British cleaning chemicals business of Brent Chemicals.

Sunleigh up 24% to £2.8m

SUNLEIGH, the golf trolleys and leisurewear maker, has lifted pre-tax profits 24 per cent to £2.8 million in the December year on sales of 15 per cent up at £22.4 million. Earnings per share rose 28 per cent to 9.98p. A 0.15p final rise to 1.25p leaves the dividend 21 per cent higher at 2p. An extra £4.5 million will be paid on Powa Kaddy's performance.

Reuters seeks to raise limit

Reuters Holdings will seek authority to increase its borrowing from £200 million to £250 million, adjusted capital and reserves and to buy back up to 10 per cent of its issued share capital. Sir Christopher Hogg, the chairman, said the company had no plans for major acquisitions or borrowings but wanted to be able to take advantage of future opportunities.

Abbeycrest up 104%

RESULTS from Abbeycrest, the jewellery design group, show that it is not only the jewellery business that is benefiting from the boom in jewellery sales. Pre-tax profits for 1989 rose 104 per cent to £6.83 million. Turnover rose 132 per cent to £59.2 million and earnings per share rose 39 per cent to 19p. The dividend rose 33 per cent to 3.6p. These results include an 11-month contribution from Gallery Jewellers.

But the group could face a tougher time this year. Trading in the first quarter of 1990 was only marginally ahead of last, and although the market is forecast to continue to grow it will do so at a slower rate. Shares were unchanged at 208p.

Bray down to £605,000

BRAY Technologies, the maker of gas and oil burners, reported a fall in pre-tax profits to £605,000 in the year to end-December (£1.01 million). Turnover rose 12.7 per cent to £13.5 million. Earnings per share fell from 11.32p to 6.46p, with fully diluted earnings down from 10.83p to 6.30p. A dividend of 2p makes 3.4p (4.4p).

Harrison in \$40m sale

HARRISON & Crossfield, the chemicals and food maker whose 1989 results are due tomorrow, will sell most of its Felton flavours and fragrances business to Universal Foods Corporation of Milwaukee for \$40 million. UFC will buy all operations outside the US. Felton made an operating loss of £2.5 million in 1989.

Strong & Fisher loss

STRONG & Fisher, the leather goods group that launched an abortive bid for Pittard Garnar, its rival, last year, made a pre-tax loss of £847,000 in the six months to December, compared with a £3.1 million profit before. Sales rose from £45.1 million to £47.2 million but a £1.4 million after-tax provision for the closure of the wool-skin business led to a loss per share of 6.4p compared with earnings of 12.3p. The interim dividend has been halved to 2p.

Banks are extending facilities for a further 12 months but second-half results will be affected by high interest rates. The shares were unchanged at 43p.

Bilton net assets up

PERCY Bilton, property investor and developer, estimates a net asset value of 712p (613p) a share as at December 31, based on a partial revaluation showing a portfolio value of £339.3 million (£300.3 million).

Pre-tax profits for 1989 were £17.6 million (£20.1 million), on a turnover of £37.5 million (£45.6 million). A final dividend of 11.21p (9.95p) makes 16.61p (15.1p), paid out of net earnings of 28.3p (30.1p).

Salomon in East

Salomon Brothers, the US investment bank, plans, through its West German subsidiary, to open in East Berlin in a move which would make it the first US house to move into the Eastern bloc.

Bond to sell

Bond Corp International has won investor approval to sell its stake in the Chilean Telephone Company for HK\$3.03 billion (£233 million) to a Spanish telephone group. The sale makes a HK\$650 million profit for BCIL.

Erskine placing

Erskine House Group, the office equipment company, has placed 250,000 new cumulative redeemable preference shares and warrants covering 1.6 million new Erskine shares, with the Prudential Insurance Company of America for \$25 million.

Shares scheme

ABB Asa Brown Boveri AG, the Swiss power and engineering group, plans to launch a \$600 million employee share ownership scheme. It will be based on a convertible loan with an option to buy unrestricted B shares in Sweden's ASEA AB or bearer participation certificates in Swiss BBC AG Brown Boveri and Cie.

Marmite tops list as SB sells brands in £157m US deal

By John Bell

SMITHKLINE Beecham has completed the sale of its Marmite, Ambrosia and Bovril brands to CPC International, the US foods group, for £157 million in cash.

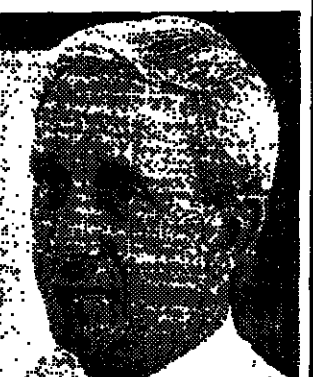
CPC trades in 47 countries and has sales of \$5.1 billion. Its leading products include Hellman's mayonnaise, Mazola Corn Oil and Knorr Soups.

The sale is part of a programme of disposals designed to re-focus SB's activities after the merger between Beecham and the US SmithKline Beecham. The largest remaining asset for disposal is the cosmetics division which boasts brands such as Yardley, Lanthier, Margaret Astor, Montell and Lancaster.

SB has been forced to lower its expected sale price due to a lack of serious buyers for the cosmetics companies. They are now being split into British-based and continental groupings, and will be sold as two separate companies.

SB said yesterday that discussions with prospective buyers continue. But it added, for the first time, that progress was now "encouraging". The SB food businesses sold accounted for 1.6 million of £89 million last year. CPC has acquired the world-wide rights to the brands plus manufacturing operations in Devon and Burton-on-Trent which employ about 700.

No profits were disclosed, but analysts said that the price was broadly in line with expectations. Mr Andrew Porter, of Nikko Securities, said: "The price is fairly high reflecting the success of the brands. This shows that SB is gaining good prices for its disposals."



Expanding: Ernest Mario and augurs well for the sale of the cosmetics interests.

Meanwhile, Glaxo, the pharmaceuticals group, whose chief executive is Dr Ernest Mario, has set up a new company to develop its business in Eastern Europe. The group already trades with most Eastern European nations but the new company aims to build on the existing links and take advantage of opportunities for expansion.

Until the formation of the new company — Glaxo Eastern Europe Ltd — its business in the region was run by Glaxomed, another subsidiary.

Glaxo is working on plans for joint ventures in several countries including manufacturing operation at Krasnodar, in the Soviet Union. In Poland, where Glaxo has a Warsaw branch office and a hospital sales team, the group has agreements for the manufacture of two antibiotic drugs.

Glaxo medicines are also made in Hungary and Yugoslavia. An office is being set up in Czechoslovakia and it has a representative in Bucharest. Trade links are being strengthened in East Germany, Bulgaria, Albania and Mongolia.

Beer and burgers on menu

By Martin Waller

WHEREAS in the United States you can call for help from Paul Newman and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, in Britain you might do better to rely on the Demon Drink. That is the question that London drinks analysts will ponder as they weigh their responses to last week's three-city tour of Grand Metropolitan's US food brands, during which it was revealed that Burger King wishes to introduce alcohol at its outlets in Britain.

It arose from their visit to the "Pink Palace" in Miami, Burger King's answer to the "Hamburger University" run by McDonald's.

The Pink Palace, a staff nickname, combines the roles of science park, research and development centre, school and corporate headquarters. It was built before GrandMet bought Pillsbury, Burger King's parent, for \$5.75 billion in 1988, and typifies the lack of financial and other controls that hit the hamburger business before the British took control.

When GrandMet took over, Burger King was foundering. The marketing now wins awards. The management was cut by 500 to 600 jobs, wiping out \$25 million to \$30 million in fixed costs a year. The product base was widened and taken up-market.

While US hopes rest on salad dressing soon to be provided by Newman's Own, the business formed as a charitable concern by Paul Newman, the actor, and cartoon characters the Teenage Turtles, in Britain, Burger King dreams of introducing alcohol at its outlets.

Burger King was pointing to a profits gain of about 25 per cent in the past year.

High rates slow credit to £3.74bn

By Colin Nairnrough, Economics Correspondent

NEW credit advanced to consumers in February slowed to a seasonally-adjusted £3.74 billion, from the £3.97 billion record in January, Central Statistical Office figures showed.

The weaker lending was slightly better than the City expected and combined with a downwards revised retail sales figure to send fresh assurance to the financial markets that high interest rates are successfully curbing the consumer.

The revised volume retail sales data showed a rise of 2.2 per cent in February compared with 2.4 per cent in the provisional data. January saw retail sales fall by 0.9 per cent.

The revised figure left retail sales still 2.5 per cent higher than in February last year. In the latest three months, volume sales were 1.2 per cent above the previous three months and 2.1 per cent up on the same period last year.

Bank credit card lending was £2.27 billion in February

after £2.34 billion the previous month and £1.85 billion in February last year. Consumer credit outstanding for the same month was respectively, £27.5 billion, £27.24 billion and £24.36 billion.

Mr Gordon Brown, the Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said that within days of his Budget, the Chancellor's forecasts were already out of step with economic reality.

He said the figures and the latest Confederation of British Industry survey suggested that high interest rates were "hitting industrial investment and output very hard while retail sales and consumer credit are still rising."

© The US National Association of Purchasing Management said its monthly index of economic activity rose to 48.8 per cent in March from 48.3 per cent in February. Below 50 per cent indicates the manufacturing sector is declining.

US contributions help profits at Wehmiller

By Philip Pangalos

IMPROVED margins and benefits from acquisitions helped pre-tax profits at Barry Wehmiller International, the specialist packaging machinery group, surge by 62 per cent to £5.02 million in the six months to end-January.

Earnings per share rose 28 per cent to 11.8p and the interim dividend is improved to 2.2p (1.8p).

The group benefited from a full six-month contribution from the US acquisitions, which were made towards the end of 1988, compared with only two months previously.

Mr Stewart Brown, the chief executive, said Kartridge Pak, the Ohio aerosol-filling equipment company, and Holmatco, the Georgia filling and sealing machinery company, performed well, helped by their exposure to the US market which has held up well.

Turnover increased by 39 per cent to £30.8 million, with 70 per cent overseas. Interest payments jumped from £184,000 to £515,000.

At Raychem, in Swindon, Wiltshire — the British side of the US Raychem materials engineering group — a quality upgrading for all key aspects of the company's activities has been pushed through. It included a new approach to maintenance. For the wire and cable division, it was a key element to keep machinery stoppages to a minimum in a system where plant is worked in cycles of 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week.

Breakdown levels have been cut by 70 per cent, and 65 per cent of all maintenance checks are now carried out while equipment is on-line and operating. Mr Peter Howard, head of manufacturing engineering, said: "The quality drive, including the maintenance element, is certainly saving money. New orders are dealt with more readily and product quality has been improved. Our operating profits are continuing to go up."

Among initiatives being supported by the DTI is a service which offers a low-cost audit of maintenance activities in a company. There is a possibility of some financial support for research and technology. A DIY maintenance manager's manual is also being produced covering all aspects of maintenance strategies and techniques.

Maintenance systems lagging

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

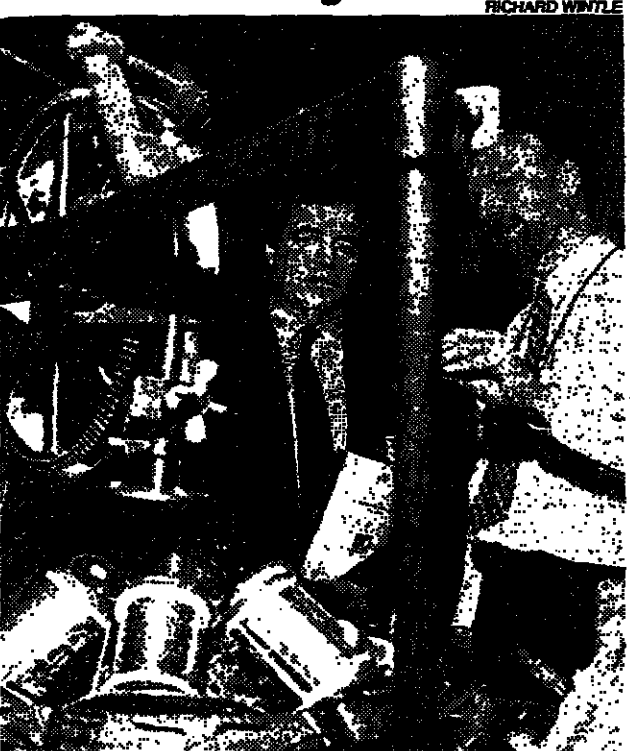
PROFIT performance improvements of up to 30 per cent can be made through better maintenance practices, according to a study made for the Department of Trade and Industry which is taking action aimed at upgrading maintenance strategies and practices in British companies.

It is not an area where Britain especially lags behind its main national competitors because most have also tended to neglect the opportunities for securing more efficient maintenance procedures, according to Mr Peter Willmott, project director for the maintenance study ordered by the DTI from the March consulting group.

Mr Willmott said: "Maintenance systems lag about 10 years behind the technology they are trying to maintain. We need the initiatives now, starting at European and national government level to get maintenance into the boardroom so its potential for savings, and the effect on the bottom line, can be appreciated. It is the last management frontier."

He added: "Maintenance has been left as the Cinderella of manufacturing industry in the UK for the simple reason that few people realize the extent of the financial benefits that can be obtained."

Many British companies are being hindered by poor maintenance of production equipment, leading to greatly



New line: Peter Willmott, left, and Peter Howard

reduced levels of plant availability, according to the survey. Even when new equipment has been up and running for only 12 months, there are still instances where availability is less than 50 per cent.

Better maintenance practices can improve availability and reduce maintenance costs, leading to substantially improved competitiveness and profitability, according to the

survey. In a typical £20 million turnover manufacturer, where "uptime" of equipment is improved 5 per cent and the additional output sold, the profit performance can improve by as much as 30 per cent.

The survey estimates that of the £8 billion spent annually, by British manufacturing on maintaining its direct productive assets in factories, there is

COMPANY BRIEFS

METEC (Fin) Turnover £4.52m (£2.77m) EPS: 22.17p (14.44p) Div: 3.45p, mkg 5.8p

S JEROME & SONS (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.58m (£2.41m) EPS: 14.1p (25.9p) Div: 5.8p, mkg 8.4p

AMBER DAY (Int) Pre-tax: £1.31m (£1.08m) EPS: 2.14p (1.98p) Div: 0.7p (0.5p)

HOMIE COUNTIES NEWS Pre-tax: £4.27m (£3.15m) EPS: 22.7p (19.5p) Div: 5.5p, mkg 8p (6p)

FORTH GROUP (Fin) Pre-tax: £0.82m (£1.24m) EPS: 5.90p (8.30p) Div: 3.2p, mkg 4.5p

RAMCO OIL (Fin) Pre-tax: £0.94m (£0.29m) EPS: 3.88p (1.84p) Div: 0.7p (0.5p)

GOWRIES (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.30m (£1.09m) EPS: 13p (12.5p) Div: 3.37p, mkg 5.82p

HEADLAND GROUP (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.70m (£1.70m) EPS: 1.22p (2.70p) Div: 1.1p (nil)

WESCO GROUP (Int) Pre-tax: £0.91m (£0.85m) EPS: 6.4p (5.1p) Div: 1.5p (nil)

EDINBURGH FUND MAN Pre-tax: £4.91m (£4.1m) EPS: 17.1p (16.9p) Div: 7.3p, mkg 11.5p

EDDIE HOLDINGS (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.23m (£2.22m) EPS: 2.78p (5.90p) Div: 0.75p, mkg 1.75p

TRIPLEVEST (Fin) Pre-tax: £8.85m (£5.75m) EPS: 20.87p (17.8p) Div: 10.97p (5.74p)

FINLAY PACKAGING (Fin) Pre-tax: £0.27 (£0.8m) EPS: 2.02p (5.74p) Div: 3.25p, mkg 4p

Last year's total dividend was 3.8p. Turnover up 22.5m (£51.9m). The year ended with strong order books in most areas, the board says.

Last year's total dividend was 7.8p. Profits were affected by higher interest rates, depreciation charges and pressure on textile margins.

Turnover was ahead by 33 per cent to £10.8m. Extraordinary profit of £132,000. Company says order book is ahead of last year.

Final results. Investment income up to £1.38m (£0.85m). Turnover slipped to £16.9m (£17.3m). Extraordinary gains £1.91m (£0.4m).

Turnover increased by 12.5 per cent to £21.3m. Since flotation, net assets have increased by a further £1m, board reports.

Turnover up a third to £4.8m. A return to dividends is expected this year, subject to capital reduction scheme going ahead.

Last year's total dividend was 4.5p. Turnover increased to £81.7m (£82.9m). Extraordinary gains of £112,000 (£234,000).

Turnover increased to £19.1m (£13.1m). Pre-tax profit for both years relates to continuing activities.

Turnover £13m (£7.5m). Board is confident current year will show continuing growth in turnover, profit and earnings per share.

Final results. Last year's total dividend was 10.5p. Group turnover increased by 30 per cent to £20.6m. Other income was £1.58m (£1.4m).

Last year's total dividend was 2p. Turnover climbed to £25.4m (£22m). Board says gradual profit recovery can be achieved in medium term.

Last year's total dividend was 17.6p. Dividends are on income shares. The net asset value per share increased to £17.94 (£17.44).

Profit and ops for last time are restored. Core business picked up in the last quarter and this has been maintained into 1990.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ABN (125p)	118	118	118	118
ADG Group (14p)	17	17	17	17
Abstract New Euro (100p)	94-5	94-5	94-5	94-5
Analyst Hols	19	19	19	19
Beta Global Energy (100p)	236	236	236	236
Cable Int	300	300	300	300
Chartwell	236	236	236	236
Comrade Tactics	25	25	25	25
Debon	45-1	45-1	45-1	45-1
Eurocom	353	353	353	353
Euromoney	135-3	135-3	135-3	135-3
First Ireland (100p)	12	12	12	12
Garmon Energy Pacific	54-2	54-2	54-2	54-2
Goldenmin	127	127	127	127
Henderson Highland (100p)	92-1	92-1	92-1	92-1
Midland Radio	140	140	140	140
Novell (100p)	100	100	100	100

See main listing for Water shares

Garmon IT	92	Leigh Int N/P	50+
Goldsmith	127	Life Science N/P	10-
Henderson Highland (100p)	92-1	Simon Eng N/P	59-
Mirn Currie Euro (100p)	101	Staveley N/P	1-
Midland Radio	148-4		
Novelst (100p)	100	(Issue price in brackets).	

Storehouse takes down Richards' for sale signs

By Gillian Bewlitch

STOREHOUSE has dismantled the "for sale" sign on Richards, its women's wear chain, because it is unable to command the sort of premium the company was seeking. Storehouse was said to have been looking for £100 million for the business but has denied it was seeking such a high figure.

The group put the business up for sale at the end of January and asked Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, to establish whether it could command a premium price in the market. Select retail groups, such as Searns and

Burton, were approached and asked if they would like to receive a confidential prospectus for the business. Storehouse said it wanted to concentrate management time and resources on its three main businesses — BHS, Mothercare and Habitat.

The company said yesterday that a number of offers had been received which, in the view of the board and its financial adviser, fell short of the value they were seeking. Analysts said a price in the £60 million to £80 million range would have been realistic.

Richards had 219 outlets, 48 of which are within BHS.

Mr Paul Morris, an analyst with Goldman Sachs, estimated that the chain will make about £8 million in operating profits for the year just ended, compared with £2.7 million last year, when profits collapsed. Storehouse said Richards sales at the half-year stage were 20 per cent up on the comparable period last year, and that profits had increased sharply.

The group refused to reveal how many offers it had received, whether any were from overseas companies and by how much they fell short of Storehouse's target figure. A management buyout of the

business is not believed to have been considered.

Richards is the second "for sale" retail chain that has failed to find a buyer recently. Last week, talks between Wm Low and Iscosales over the sale to Low of northern Gateway stores were called off.

Mr Derek Lovelock, the former managing director of Richards, is now working at Mothercare, and Richards is being run by Mr John Braddell, executive chairman, who is a main board director.

Storehouse is expected to announce £25 million pre-tax profits for the year to end-March. Shares fell 1p to 116p.

Eagle 'invests' £50m in B&W

By Lindsay Cook

BRISTOL & West Building Society is to tie with Eagle Star, the life assurance group owned by BAT Industries, and to receive a £50 million loan from the company.

The tenth largest building society said yesterday that the money — the equivalent of a 12.5 per cent stake — will be used to develop its branch network and the possible acquisition of smaller societies.

It is the first deal in which an outside organization has directly funded the core operations of a building society.

Bristol & West, which has been the subject of several takeover offers, denied that the loan was a preamble to a bid for the society by the insurance company.

The purchase of a stake in a building society is not allowed under building society regulations, but talks are under way with the Building Societies Commission as to how it should categorize the arrangement. Before Eagle Star could own 12.5 per cent of the Bristol & West society would have to convert to a public company.

Mr Ian Kennedy, general manager (marketing) at Bristol & West, stressed Eagle Star would not have "a major say in the business of the society," and that it was not buying a stake.

Mr Steve Melcher, executive director of life and investment services at Eagle Star, said: "It is an arm's length transaction. It is not a gift. We are getting a return for it. In the initial days it will be like a deposit earning a regular return pegged to the long-term gilt rate until the Building Societies Commission change the ways in which investments can be made."

"We are not buying a building society. We are investing in a minority way."

When Eagle Star tied with AA Insurance Services in the autumn it bought a 24 per cent stake for an undisclosed sum.

Mr Joseph Egerton, building society analyst with accountants Spicer & Oppenheim, said: "Clearly this does amount to an equity stake. The substantial reality is that this is the equivalent of stake-building."

"It will be interesting to see what competitive reactions it could spark. Some other insurance companies could move in that direction. They will be acutely anxious that they might lose retail outlets unless they make similar arrangements."

COMMENT

Too much flexibility but not enough care

Four basic principles are claimed by SPP, the Swedish mutual life insurance company which is mounting an agreed £490 million takeover of London & Edinburgh Trust. The principles, curiously illustrated in SPP's annual report by a collection of photographs which would provide delight to a broad cross-section of the shareholding public from connoisseurs of sand-castles to paedophiles, are competence, flexibility, trust and care.

Given those guiding lights, SPP must have been heartily disappointed with its first venture into the London takeover scene. LET disclosed some time ago that it was in talks, but by last Friday evening it was becoming common knowledge that a deal had been done. The bidder was said, by those "close to the deal" to be a European company. By the time the Sunday newspapers were printed on Saturday night, the identity of the bidder, the price and most of the other details had been comprehensively leaked to the financial Press.

The belated announcement to the Stock Exchange yesterday morning, then, was little more than confirmation of what anyone with the price of half a pint to spare for a newspaper would already have learned. Full marks to the Sunday papers, but no marks, other than black ones, to the advisers, whoever they are, who engineered the leak.

If London is to have a financial future it has to adopt the principles outlined by the disappointed SPP, especially the last two — trust and care. All across Europe, exchange control regulations are being dismantled with the same enthusiasm with which the Germans demolished the Wall. Most of the Swedish controls went last year, and this opened the door for companies such as SPP, the largest pension provider in Sweden after the government, to begin to put their money abroad. The potential is enormous (SPP alone has £12.5 billion under management), but it will not take many fiascos, like the lack of security surrounding the LET bid, for overseas managers to be persuaded that they will be better doing deals via Paris, or Frankfurt, rather than London.

Newspapers, including *The Times*, love to publish important stories which are leaked to them ahead of their being officially announced. Call them scoops, exclusives, or what you will, it would be hypocritical of any editor to rail against them, and the reader would suspect sour grapes because it was another paper's coup. But that does not detract from the basic issue that some of the City's professional advisers need to tighten up their security, because too much is leaked ahead of time.

The best way, probably the only way, for this to be brought about is for

the authorities, in this latest case the City Takeover Panel, to make such an issue of the matter that advisers will think long and hard before parting with their clients' information ahead of time.

Boesky, the outsider

Ivan Boesky, the Wall Street arbitrator who this week completes his jail sentence for insider dealing, once said to me during the course of an interview "Insiders, I have no use for insiders. I spend a dime and buy a paper." We know now that he was making full use of insiders, and that he was at the same time setting up evidence against some of the greatest names on Wall Street. A tape of my interview may even be lodged somewhere in the vaults of the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington.

Boesky has completed two years of his three-year term, has paid a \$100 million fine and is banned from dealing in securities by the SEC. It is expected that he will be giving evidence against other alleged offenders, including the one-time king of the junk bonds, Michael Milken. He will be out of prison tomorrow. Greed may be good, but it wasn't much good to Ivan Boesky.

One-bounce Pöhl

Chancellor Kohl's politically-driven haste in committing West Germany to an early monetary alliance with a haemorrhaging East Germany was bound to annoy the Bundesbank. Karl Otto Pöhl, guardian of the Deutschmark, may still be smarting from being over-ruled, but there will be no watering down of the Bundesbank principle — monetary stability over the prime objective. Apparent political consensus on the need to convert the East German mark to West marks at a rate of one-for-one was the last straw.

Last Thursday, the Bundesbank's policy-setting council decided to act. Its recommendations have a ring of commandments. Pöhl is not for the bouncing — not twice.

In the Bundesbank plan, the conversion rate, two-for-one after 2,000 Eastmarks at one-for-one, is "imperative". The Bundesbank asserts its supremacy, requiring that an accord between Bonn and East Berlin guarantee the bank's laws and regulations in both states.

All monetary policy decisions by the Bundesbank would have to be implemented in both Germanys. However final Pöhl's *diktat* appears, Kohl was quick to stress that no final decisions have not yet been made. The row looks set to go on, but the market will only believe the Bundesbank when it tightens policy ahead of the event. That could be soon. The question is can Britain follow.

David Brewerton

Share sale charges brought

By Angela Mackay

A FORMER director of Scrimgeour Vickers Asset Management has been charged with two offences under section 47 (1) of the Financial Services Act relating to the sale of shares in Ferranti International, the defence group, to Smith New Court in July last year.

Mr Christopher Nigel Roberts, an accountant, will appear at Bow Street Magistrates' Court on April 20. The section in the Act relating to the charges prohibits the conduct of investment business based on false or misleading statements. Scrimgeour refused to comment.

Ferranti announced a £215 million asset shortfall in September last year and blamed the problems on fraudulent weapons contracts negotiated by International Signal & Control, its US subsidiary.

Mr Gnerin founded ISC almost 20 years ago and is the subject of legal action instigated by Ferranti to recover the money.

ISE to change

THE Council of the International Stock Exchange has approved its new governance structure.

The reorganization was the priority of Mr Peter Rawlings, who became chief executive of the ISE in November. It splits the ISE's organization into three functional divisions: primary markets (mainly quotations), trading markets, and settlement services (responsible for the Taurus system).

Each of the strategic business units will be controlled by a divisional managing board.

WBB rises 12% to £8.5m



MR HENRY Cottrell, left, chairman of Watts Blake and Bearn, the clay producer, with Mr John Pike, the managing director, announcing a 12.7 per cent rise

in pre-tax profits to £8.5 million for the year to end-December. Total dividend rose 16.2 per cent to 8.6p a share out of earnings up 15 per cent to 28.4p a share.

Midsummer agrees £88m takeover

By Melinda Wittstock

MIDSUMMER Leisure, the pubs, snooker and discotheque group whose stock-market value has almost halved since it tried to take over Leisure Investments last August, has accepted an £88.5 million bid from European Leisure, which owns the Hippodrome nightclub in London.

As part of the agreed deal, European Leisure will sell off all of Midsummer's 40 pubs, including the Bruce's Firkin Brewery chain, as part of the

combined group's strategy of focusing on discos and themed leisure venues.

Mr Michael Ward, the chairman of European Leisure, expects to raise about £45 million from the disposals, which will reduce the combined group's borrowings from £57.6 million to about £23 million by the year-end.

He said the merger, which catapults the combined group to third place behind Mecca and First Leisure in the British leisure sector, will also result in cost savings of about £3 million on an annualized ba-

sis. Midsummer shareholders are being offered 144 new European Leisure shares, as well as 50 preference shares, or £50 cash, for every 100 Midsummer shares held, valuing each Midsummer share at 168p.

Midsummer shares, trading at 131p before bid talks were announced, fell 12p to 147p.

Mr Paul Reece, the deputy chairman of Midsummer, and Mr Ian Rock, a director, will join the enlarged group's board.

Meanwhile, Mr Adam Page, the chairman, is to resign. Mr

Page, who is negotiating compensation terms, will hold a 3 per cent stake in European Leisure.

Mr Page said the £88.5 million price tag is generous, given that it "would not jeopardize future earnings growth" at the combined group. European Leisure shares fell 5½p to 75p.

Mr Ward is negotiating to buy a property in the West End for £6.5 million to develop into a bar and disco. He also plans further European expansion to add to his Parisian clubs.

Bears and jet nags

MOST of the weary analysts who visited Grand Metropolitan in America last week were catching up on their sleep over the weekend. But some were made of sterner stuff. Sue Leslie at Merrill Lynch was off to various parts of the US to talk to clients over there — at least she has a holiday to look forward to soon after she gets back to London. But Sue's idea of a relaxing break is not everyone's, as she and her husband Chris are off to Spitzbergen, 400 chilly miles north of the north coast of Norway, seeking polar bears. Meanwhile Sandy Soames, head of research at Panmure Gordon, came in second on The Glazier, his Irish horse, at the East Essex point-to-point at Mark's Tey on Saturday despite having obvious difficulties over the firm ground, not to mention, staying awake. This was a particularly satisfying result for Sandy since his firm sponsors the Mark's Tey tote, although he assures us the link is entirely coincidental. Then Ian Marsh, a UK equity salesman at Crédit Suisse First Boston, galloped home on Hawkswood, his horse, to win the later 3¼-mile novice race. Ian and Sandy are now set to race each other over the same course on Easter Monday, a grudge rematch as Sandy won their last head-to-head.

Last laugh

AMID the chaos on Wall Street, several small foreign investment banking and broking houses are celebrating, as

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Saved by cutting room

GREAT scenes we would like to have seen: Sir John Harvey-Jones is currently appearing in a BBC series, *Trouble-shooter*, giving advice to various companies which have run into difficulties. Certainly the management of Triang, shows last week, must be wondering why they had been so foolish as to inflict upon themselves the sharp end of Sir John's tongue. But the one that got away was Sophie Mirman's *Sock Shop*, which also did not make it into the last six that made up the series when the filming was done, well before the company's latest crisis.

They pick up high-fliers swapping previously astronomical salaries for job security. After almost a decade of being derided by larger competitors for not having the firepower to nudge into the most lucrative deals, second-tier firms are attracting top executives seeking a steady mooring in Wall Street's storm. "There is now a major flight to stability," says Gary Goldstein, president of Whitney Group, an executive search firm. "This is opportunity time." Fueling the race for talent was the collapse in February of Drexel Burnham Lambert, whose fortunes rose and fell with the junk bond market. About 4,000 Drexel employees have joined the ranks of the newly-unemployed, with nearly 1,000 more expected to join them.

The Peake family, subject of tonight's programme, were far happier when it came to their turn under Sir John's microscope. The 20-year-old apple juice company, brand leader in a niche market but, with big borrowings and falling profits, then facing some difficult decisions. To move ahead would necessitate finding a business partner and, as the founder of the company, Devora Peake put it, "a lot depends on who you go to bed with." Copella is now majority-owned by Taunton Cider and its profits are set to rise 10-fold this year.

"That's made it very competitive for good people," says Donald Marrow, chairman of Paine Webber Group, which has hired plenty of refugees from other firms. "You now have, for the first time in a long time, a number of good people available over a wide range of businesses."

● AMONG the "casualties" of yesterday's small earthquake — 5.2 on the Richter scale — in the Midlands was half an hour's trading at Albert E Sharp. The building was evacuated as staff started to shake in their seats, amid the sounds of smashing from the offices upstairs. "It wasn't much — people walking about could hardly feel it," said one man on the spot. It did at least live up a dull day's trading.

Signing on and on

SOMEONE once pointed out that while the Ten Commandments could be knocked off relatively easily on the back of an envelope, the European Commission's ruling on the standardization of duck eggs ran to something like 100 times that length. Both pale into insignificance when compared with the pooling and settlement agreement for the forthcoming electricity privatization, weighing in at 750 pages of single space typescript and including 200 pages of algorithmic formulae for computing the price of electricity after the float. It was only one of 1,000 new contracts which had to be put in place by the Energy Department and its legal advisers, the City solicitors Slaughter and May, by vespers day at the weekend, and Friday saw the start of a mammoth two-day signing session at Clement's House in Gresham Street, already known as the Bunker to the legions of advisers who have been cloistered there in recent months.

● BUT the 250 advisers who have progressed the privatization this far will have their reward this afternoon at the Royal Garden Hotel, where John Wakeham, the Energy Secretary, is hosting a celebratory bash starting at 4 pm. Guests are promised "an event" starting the entertainments at 7 pm, although its nature remains as much a secret as the actual details of the privatization — more so, in fact, as it has yet to appear in the Sunday newspapers.

Martin Waller

Whose technological exports are at work all over the world? (and out of it.)

On January 12th, the crew of the space shuttle Columbia were faced with a little problem. How to get an 11 ton rogue satellite back down to earth.

Luckily they were equipped with the 'Canadarm', designed and built in Ontario by Spar Aerospace for NASA. Mission accomplished.

Technically sophisticated companies have always prospered in Ontario, possibly because more than half of all research and development money spent in Canada is spent here.

A modern, well-established industrial infrastructure coupled to a mature financial community helps to propel such technological advances out of the lab and into the market place. (A market place of 275 million people called North America.)

And a highly skilled, highly educated workforce means unparalleled levels of productivity and quality control.

Not surprisingly, the quality of life here is equally desirable.

Ontario has the highest per capita exports of any industrial society, which perhaps explains why IBM, British Telecom, Sharp and Wang are thriving here, just 6½ hours from Heathrow.

So if you've got a satellite the size of a double decker bus to catch or an extremely complex component to manufacture, you know where to come.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Exchange Index compared with 1985 was down at 87.4 (day's range 87-87.4).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for April 2

	Price	Close	1 month	3 months
New York	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Mexico	1.8887-1.9830	1.9047-1.9083	0.26-0.22	0.85-0.88
Canada	3.1074-3.4325	3.1196-3.3325	1.17-1.19	3.51-3.59
Amsterdam	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
London	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Frankfurt	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Paris	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Stockholm	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Oslo	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Geneva	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Brussels	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Madrid	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Barcelona	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Valencia	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Sevilla	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Granada	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Malaga	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Cartagena	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Almeria	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58
Murcia	1.8285-1.9310	1.8300-1.8310	0.87-0.88	2.54-2.58

Premiums in p.p. Discount in d.s.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	7595.55-7598.4
Australia dollar	2.1498-2.1504
Bahian dollar	0.085-0.016
Brazil cruzeiro	66.770-70.375
Ceylon rupee	0.7848-0.7849
Cyprus pound	0.7848-0.7849
Finland mark	29.16-29.17
Hong Kong dollar	12.8697-12.705
Indian rupee	0.4780-0.482
Japanese yen	4.4448-4.445
Korean dollar	0.4780-0.482
Malaysian ringgit	2.2051-2.21
New Zealand dollar	0.8051-0.81
Saudi Arabian riyal	2.2051-2.21
Singapore dollar	0.8051-0.81
South African rand	6.5245-6.514
Taiwan dollar	0.8051-0.81
Thai baht	0.8051-0.81
Turkish lira	11.39-11.5
U.S. dollar	0.8051-0.81
Yemen rial	0.8051-0.81
Zimbabwe dollar	0.8051-0.81

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.5710-1.5726	Denmark	5.4870-6.5020
Singapore	1.8345-1.8355	W Germany	1.7020-1.7027
Australia	2.1498-2.1504	Switzerland	1.5047-1.5057
Canada	3.1074-3.4325	France	1.8285-1.9310
Sweden	1.8285-1.9310	Italy	5.2830-4.7550
Norway	6.5245-6.514	Japan	15.99-15.98

Rates supplied by Bank of England

Bank of England	12.8697-12.705
Belgium (C.F.)	28.11-28.12
Hong Kong	12.8697-12.705
India	0.4780-0.482
Spain	10.85-10.86
Austria	11.39-11.5

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rate % Clearing Bankers 15	Finance Rate 15%
Discount Market %	
Overnight Market %	
14 Day 14 Week Rate %	
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THIRD MARKET

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol		Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
FT-SE 100						Three Month EC					
Jan 80	2237.0	2245.0	2237.0	2240.0	19041	Jan 80	86.48	86.52	86.48	86.52	4765
Sep 80	2237.0	2240.0	2237.0	2240.0	1701	Sep 80	86.48	86.52	86.48	86.52	56
Three Month Sterling						US Treasury Bond					
Jan 80	85.08	85.12	85.08	85.12	161240	Jan 80	92-07	92-08	92-07	92-08	16950
Sep 80	85.08	85.17	85.06	85.16	16000	Long Gilt					
Three Month Eurodollar						Jan 80	91-00	91-18	91-00	91-18	10200
Jan 80	91-22	91-23	91-22	91-23	2883	Japanese Gov Bond					
Sep 80	91-22	91-23	91-19	91-24	1460	Jan 80	90-24	90-24	90-24	90-24	100
Three Month Euro DM						German Gov Bond					
Jan 80	91-51	91-51	91-38	91-40	6000	Jan 80	93-02	93-15	93-01	93-15	47700
Sep 80	91-51	91-53	91-34	91-37	170	Jan 80	93-02	93-05	93-00	93-05	1670

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX										LONDON METAL EXCHANGE									
					Official prices/weights previous day					Rushful Welf									
					(R/tonne)					Cash 3 month Vol Tons									

LONDON FOX				LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
Official prices/advance previous day				Official prices/advance previous day			
Cocoa				Copper			
Feb 750-790				17530-17360			
Mar 792-791				5100-5180			
Apr 826-824				1657-1640			
May 858-859				6960-6980			
Jun 892-891				1907-1908			
Coffee				Aluminum			
Feb 710-705				900-9100			
Mar 717-714				1000-1000			
Apr 734-730				1000-1000			
May 734-730				1000-1000			
Jun 734-730				1000-1000			
Sugar				1000-1000			
Feb 348-346				1000-1000			
Mar 348-346				1000-1000			
Apr 348-346				1000-1000			
May 348-346				1000-1000			
Jun 348-346				1000-1000			

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card, check your eight start price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. (Some rules appear on the back of your card.)

No.	Company	Start Price	End Price	Change	%
1	Shaw & Carter	100	100	0	0
2	Dunlop	100	100	0	0
3	Colson (ad)	100	100	0	0
4	Waco	100	100	0	0
5	BWJ	100	100	0	0
6	Shaw & Carter	100	100	0	0
7	Ranger	100	100	0	0
8	Albert Heine	100	100	0	0
9	Concor	100	100	0	0
10	Amber Ind	100	100	0	0
11	Freemant	100	100	0	0
12	Lang	100	100	0	0
13	Meat Pies	100	100	0	0
14	High Point	100	100	0	0
15	Black	100	100	0	0
16	Hawth (O)	100	100	0	0
17	Whitcomb	100	100	0	0
18	Wain (AF) A	100	100	0	0
19	McCarthy A S	100	100	0	0
20	Hall Eng	100	100	0	0
21	Wet	100	100	0	0
22	Copac PLC	100	100	0	0
23	STC (ad)	100	100	0	0
24	Tottenham Hotspur	100	100	0	0
25	Rea Bros	100	100	0	0
26	Wimpy (G) (ad)	100	100	0	0
27	Clayton Sea	100	100	0	0
28	Hardy O & G	100	100	0	0
29	Polytec	100	100	0	0
30	Systec	100	100	0	0
31	Ordn	100	100	0	0
32	Salvage (Chen)	100	100	0	0
33	Cyanamid	100	100	0	0
34	New Concordia	100	100	0	0
35	Smith Estate (ad)	100	100	0	0
36	Goring Kerr	100	100	0	0
37	Forrester	100	100	0	0
38	Gees Green	100	100	0	0
39	Ash & Lay	100	100	0	0
40	NMC Group	100	100	0	0
41	Raise Ind	100	100	0	0
42	Claydon	100	100	0	0
43	Molins	100	100	0	0

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

There were no valid claims for yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum competition. The money will be added to today's bond.

BRITISH FUNDS			
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Untangling those contract disputes

Veteran practitioners will remember the elderly man who paraded up and down in front of the Law Courts for many years bearing sandwich-boards proclaiming "Arbitrate - Don't Litigate." The reasons for this daily exhortation were not revealed, nor why he disappeared one day, never to be seen again. But the message certainly got through.

His stamping ground was historic and well chosen. For more than 200 years the area around the Law Courts - at the junction of the Inns of Court and the City, with the Law Society just round the corner - had been at the centre of the business of resolving international commercial disputes. English was the lingua franca of international commerce, and English standard forms of contract were used all over the world.

In many cases the underlying transactions had no link with this country. But ships were chartered for world-wide trading on the Baltic Exchange in St Mary Axe, their cargoes carried under English bills of lading and insured on the London market. Trade associations in London, Manchester and Liverpool issued standard forms

LEGAL BRIEF

Sir Michael Kerr
on the complexity
of international
arbitration

of contract, which regulated dealings in every kind of commodity, wherever produced and exported. And the City was the banking centre of the world. So all trade came here, and the legal business of resolving trade disputes followed the trade.

The standard forms of contract were governed by English law and provided that any dispute was to be resolved in England, usually by arbitration, or in the Commercial Court, where foreign litigants have outnumbered the English since it was set up in 1895.

But after the Second World War the world became much more complex. The UK lost its domi-

nant trading position and the globe became fragmented into more than 150 states. Many had great wealth in natural resources, notably oil, which far exceeded their importance in size and population. They became the customers for "western" investment, development and expertise.

The result was a world-wide network of thousands of contracts in all fields of activity: construction, engineering, mining, building roads, aerodromes, factories, hospitals and ships; the licensing of know-how, patents and trade marks; and the marketing of consumer goods.

For these kinds of contract there were no standard forms. Every one had to be negotiated separately. And although most were still in English, there was no reason why the parties should choose English law to govern their rights; nor England as the forum to settle their disputes.

But every well-drafted international contract should have a dispute resolution clause, otherwise trouble is almost certain. The favoured form is by arbitration. Neither side wants to be dragged through the courts, let alone those of the other party. Both want their



dealings to be kept private, and arbitration is a private process conducted behind closed doors. Its awards are also far more easily enforceable than judgments.

So arbitration became the order of the day. But this left many problems. What should be the contents of the arbitration clause to deal with possible future disputes? Where and under what system of procedural law should any arbitration be held? And who should be the arbitrators?

There were no safe answers. But for some decades after the war, and to a large extent even now, the most common answer was "ICC arbitration", under rules of the

International Chamber of Commerce in Paris. Since the ICC has a branch in almost every country, this solution had the merit of ubiquitous neutrality. But as a basis for organization it had disadvantages. The costs were high, and an initial deposit had to be put up in Paris, proportional to the amount claimed.

So ICC arbitration has never been ideal, but always flourished *faute de mieux*. This, together with forensic chauvinism, led to the extraordinary competition for international arbitral venues that has pervaded the world for decades and shows no sign of abating. The objective is to bring

international arbitrations to one's own territory, with all the advantages for the local legal and ancillary institutions.

The movement takes three forms. First, to modernize the local law to render it "consumer-friendly" to the business of international arbitration by liberalizing it from any possible interference from the local courts. Second, to set up national so-called "International Arbitration Centres", which may issue rules, maintain panels of arbitrators, and live more in hope of business than expectation. And the third is the adoption of the "Model Law" on arbitration drawn up by the

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. Its sensible purpose was to create one uniform law of arbitration capable of adoption and enactment anywhere, so that any state could say that arbitration within its frontiers is the same, and therefore just as good, as anywhere else.

If a western multinational is thinking of investing millions in a project in Ruritania, the adoption of the Model Law by Ruritania enables the customer to claim that there can be no objection to a clause providing for arbitration there. In this way Ruritania may succeed in becoming an acceptable venue for international arbitrations generally.

So the Model Law was ready-made for those parts of the globe which are not recognized arbitration centres but would like to rank among them. The traditional highly developed centres, on the other hand, did not want to adopt it. They preferred to enhance their attractions by reforming their own laws and strengthening their arbitral institutions.

That, together with countless rounds of congresses, conferences and seminars, is today's world of international arbitration.

So international arbitration has become a business, a forensic industry, in its own right. All these institutions are designed to serve international business. But how are the customers to choose?

The author recently retired as a *Lord Justice of Appeal*. He is a former president of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and now president of the London Court of International Arbitration, to be discussed in a sequel.

Queen's Bench Division

Law Report April 3 1990

Court of Appeal

Risk of damage not covered by nuclear Act

Merlin and Others v British Nuclear Fuels Ltd

Before Mr Justice Gagehouse

[Judgment April 2]

"Damage to property" within the meaning of section 7 of the Nuclear Installations Act 1959 did not extend to a risk or increased risk of damage to property, nor to pure economic loss, but only to proved personal injury and actual damage to property.

Mr Justice Gagehouse held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing a claim brought by the plaintiffs, Christopher Peter Merlin, Christine Ann Merlin, Sam Oliver Merlin (a minor) and Ben Harris Merlin (a minor) under section 12 of the 1959 Act for compensation for diminution in the value of their house caused by radioactive contamination.

Section 7 of the 1959 Act provides:

"(1) Where a nuclear site licence has been granted in respect of any site, it shall be the duty of the licensee to secure that - (a) no such occurrence causes injury to any person or damage to any property of any person other than the licensee, being injury or damage arising out of or resulting from the radioactive properties ... of that nuclear matter; and (b) no ionising radiations emitted during the period of the licensee's responsibility - (i) from anything caused or suffered by the licensee to be on the site which is not nuclear matter; or (ii) from any waste discharged ... on or from the site, cause injury to any person or damage to any property of any person other than the licensee."

Section 12 provides: "(1) Where any injury or damage has been caused in breach of a duty imposed by section 7 ... (a) ...

compensation ... shall be payable ..."

Mr Stephen Sedley, QC and Mr Nicholas Kelly, QC for the plaintiffs; Mr Kenneth Robinson, QC, Mr Antony Edwards-Stuart and Miss Emma Griffiths for BNF.

MR JUSTICE GAGEHOUSE said that the essential nature of the Merlins' claim was for financial loss represented by the diminution in value of their former home caused by the level of radioactive contamination in the house emanating from the defendants' site and the perception of the first two plaintiffs of the risk to their children (the third and fourth plaintiffs).

BNFL's case was that the 1959 Act did not extend liability for proved personal injury and damage to property but not for risk or increased risk of either; nor for compensation for economic loss.

His Lordship's initial reaction

to the defendants' case had been unfavourable as it appeared to limit the ambit of the Act, but his Lordship was now convinced that the defendants were right.

It was not in dispute that the enactment of the 1959 Act was to fulfil the United Kingdom's obligations under the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage dated May 21, 1963.

The Convention imposed obligations on the parties in respect of certain matters but left other matters to the Convention countries. Thus, for example, the 1963 Act extended the limitation period (section 15).

Most significantly, the 1965 Act did not extend liability for proved personal injury and damage to property but not for risk or increased risk of either; nor for compensation for economic loss.

His Lordship's initial reaction

to the defendants' case had been unfavourable as it appeared to limit the ambit of the Act, but his Lordship was now convinced that the defendants were right.

Section 7 of the 1959 Act covered article 10(b) of the Convention but did not extend to any other loss or damage.

The phrase "personal injury or damage to property" was familiar enough. The former meant physical or mental injury and the latter meant physical damage to property. Where the phrase was used in the Convention, it was not to be extended to property rights.

The 1965 Act contained compromises. It imposed absolute liability irrespective of negligence and greatly extended the period of limitation. As a balance, maximum financial claims (section 16) and a restriction on the nature of claims were also laid down.

It was true that the dose of radioactive contamination was not sufficient to produce physical damage to property was enormous and infinitely greater than that present in the plaintiffs' house. It might then be argued that it was unlikely to occur as to be meaningful but his Lordship was assured by an example given by Mr Robinson that it would cover, for instance, injury to livestock and would be an important head of compensation.

On the wording of the Act, "damage to property" had a limited meaning, as contended for by the defendants, and, on the facts, the plaintiffs had no right to compensation. It was a delicate choice by Parliament not to extend the Vienna Convention.

His Lordship could see no reason why compensation under the Act should be extended to cover the plaintiffs' claim. It could not be claimed at common law. Any such claim at common law would have failed: see *Simaan General Contracting v Pilkington Glass Ltd* (No 2) (1988) QB 738.

A second consideration was the floodgates argument. It was in the nature of a nuclear installation that some additional radioactive nuclides would be in the atmosphere. If the mere presence of that additional element was enough to constitute damage under section 7, the defendants would be in breach of their statutory duty ever.

Another consideration was section 7 of the Act which imposed a degree of causation. It was not enough to have a duty of statutory duty, there also had to be consequential loss. The presence of alpha-emitting nuclides merely increased the risk of cancer to which everyone was exposed. That did not *per se* amount to injury.

Solicitors: Leigh Day & Co, Freshfields.

Some documents can be validly served by fax

Hastie and Jenkinson v McMahon

Before Lord Justice Lloyd, Lord Justice Gagehouse and Lord Justice Woolf

[Judgment March 29]

The use of facsimile transmission of a document (other than one required to be served personally or one originating process) constituted good service provided that it could be proved that the document, in a complete and legible state, had in fact been received by the person on whom service was to be effected.

Order 65, rule 5(1) of the Rules of the Supreme Court, being permissive rather than exhaustive, did not outlaw modes of service not there specified.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal from Mr Justice Poplewell, dated July 31, 1989, who had allowed an appeal from a decision in chambers of Master Grant, dated March 15, 1989.

Mr Nigel Gibson for the plaintiffs; Mr Charles Douthwaite for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that judgment had been entered by the defendant on the ground that the plaintiff had failed to comply with a consent order made by Master Hodgson on November 23, 1988.

The order required that: "The plaintiffs serve on the defendant by 4.30pm on December 19, 1988, a list of documents pursuant to the order of Mr Registrar-Generals dated February 12, 1988, or that they be delivered from defending this action."

Mr Justice Poplewell had allowed the plaintiffs' appeal because he had concluded that they had complied with the order of Master Hodgson by causing a clearly legible list of documents to be transmitted by fax to the defendant's solicitors by 4.10pm on December 19, 1988.

The issues raised fell under four heads: A. Could a document transmitted by fax be regarded as having been served?

His Lordship said that special considerations applied to writs and other documents used for initiating legal proceedings and nothing in his judgment was intended to apply to such documents.

However, that class of document apart, were there any legal reasons why advantage should not be taken of the progress in technology which fax represented to apply to such documents?

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the Rules of the Supreme Court?

The purpose of serving a document was to ensure that the contents were available to the recipient and whether the document was served in the conventional way or by fax the result was exactly the same.

Mr Douthwaite submitted that what was transmitted by fax was not the document but an electronic message.

However, that submission failed to distinguish between the method of transmission and the result of the transmission by fax. What was produced by the transmission of the message by fax, admittedly using the recipient's machine and paper, was the document which the other party had intended should be served.

What was required was that a legible copy of the document should be in the possession of the party to be served. That fax achieved.

His Lordship therefore concluded that service by fax could be good service subject to any requirement of the order requiring service of a particular document and any requirement of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The problem from the point of view of parties using fax as a means of service other than by agreement was that it might be difficult for a party to prove that a legible copy of the document had in fact been printed at the recipient's premises.

If the document could be served by fax did that conflict with the Rules of the Supreme Court?

Order 65, rule 5(1) stated that apart from documents falling within the special categories of those required to be served personally or those originating process, "service of any document ... may be effected - (a) by leaving the document at the proper address of the person to be served; or (b) by post; or (c) in such other manner as the court may direct."

To give effect to Mr Douthwaite's submissions the word "must" in the rule had to be read as "must". His Lordship could find no justification for departing from the normal meaning of the provisions to achieve that result.

The purpose of the Order was not to restrict methods of service but to assist the parties to achieve service and if necessary to prove that that service had taken place in the specified circumstances.

If service could be proved to have taken place apart from reliance on the rule then there was no need to make use of the rule.

Did that *deus in excelsis* comply with Order 65, rule 5(1) in the course of argument.

The council contended that the right to buy had ceased to become exercisable if an order under section 12(1) was made obliging the tenants to give up possession of the property.

Judge Hamilton, in a full and careful judgment, thought that the Court of Appeal decision in *Enfield London Borough Council v McCann* (1986) 1 WLR 1007 obliged him to hold that the district council's duty to convey had not arisen.

The case of *McCann* was only a binding authority for cases where the facts were the same and was accordingly distinguished, although it did leave the law in an unsatisfactory state. It was perhaps

inevitable that novel legislation of the right to buy would give rise to difficulties, which could only be identified in a case-by-case process.

The equitable interest in the property was acquired by the tenants directly, the landlord's duty to convey arose and became enforceable by injunction under section 138.

Subject to payment of the purchase price and execution of the mortgage, if there was one, by the tenants, the landlord was bound to convey to them the legal estate in the property.

Solicitors: Graham Fox & Co, Enfield; Mr John Anderson, Welwyn Garden City.

Lord Justice Gagehouse had raised the question as to whether or not the production of a document by the recipient's fax machine at the proper address of the person to be served in any event complied with Order 65, rule 5(1)(a).

Mr Douthwaite had submitted that the answer was in the affirmative. The effect was that the document produced by the recipient's machine was left at the proper address and so there was in fact service in accordance with the rules.

His Lordship accepted that by giving a generous interpretation to rule 5(1)(a) it was perfectly possible to come to that conclusion.

However, in his ordinary meaning he did not regard the words "the existing document" as naturally applying to the production of a document by a fax machine.

Rather than the courts seeking by adopting an extended interpretation of the rule to apply the existing rule to service by fax it was better to leave to the Rules Committee the task of re-drafting or otherwise amending the rule as they had done in the case of the Document Exchange.

D. Was the quality of the document produced by fax acceptable?

Mr Douthwaite argued that a document produced by fax machine was not appropriately regarded as a document because the majority of documents now produced by the use of fax were not as durable as documents printed on ordinary paper.

He also relied on Order 66, rules 1 and 2 of which dealt with the quality and size of paper and the printing of documents "prepared by parties for use in the Supreme Court".

His Lordship strongly suspected that these rules were not made in 1985 with the quality of documents sent on other parties but the quality of documents prepared for use in court.

Bearing in mind that in the ordinary course of events copies of the document were going to be made by the recipient if it was a document which was going to have to be referred to in the proceedings, his Lordship did not consider that there was any substance in that point.

For those reasons he would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Gagehouse delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Lloyd delivered a judgment concurring with the result.

Solicitors: Hill Dickinson Davis Clements & Co, Liverpool; Manches & Co, Oxford.

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Council's duty to convey right-to-buy property

Dance and Another v Welwyn Hatfield District Council

Before Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice McCowan

[Judgment March 29]

A local authority, as landlord, is free to demolish all buildings under section 138 of the Housing Act 1985, to convey a property to its joint tenants who had established their right to buy the property, despite the landlord's claim for possession which had not been made the subject of an order of the court.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing the appeal of Mr Cyril Dance and his wife Joan, joint tenants of a three-bedroom house of which Welwyn Hatfield District Council was the landlord and freehold owner, against the decision of Judge Hamilton in Hertford County Court on July 10, 1989 to adjourn the council's claim for an injunction until the merits of the landlord's claim for possession had been determined and his direction that the two claims should be heard together.

Mr David Watkinson and Mr Stephen Cottle for Mr and Mrs Dance; Mr John W. Haines for the council.

property and so to acquire the freehold of it had arisen in the Dance's favour under section 12(1)(a) of the 1985 Act. The district council admitted their right to buy and proposed an acceptable price for the property.

The district council then resolved to demolish all buildings in the area in order to make way for a redevelopment scheme and served on Mr and Mrs Dance a notice seeking possession of the property.

Mr and Mrs Dance issued proceedings in Hertford County Court claiming an injunction pursuant to section 138(3) of the 1985 Act to prevent the council from conveying the property as required by section 138(1)(a).

Video Box Office Ltd v GST Holdings Ltd

Consideration should be given to a possible amendment to the County Court Rules so as to ensure that, subject to specified exceptions, any claim for a sum not exceeding the stipulated limit from time to time (at present £500) should be governed by the same provisions as to costs.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Farnham and Sir John

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THE LAW

Passing on that 'know-how'

**Edward Fennell
meets six young
Polish lawyers,
here to see what
makes the City tick**

One of the earliest fruits of the Government's "know-how" fund for Eastern Europe was the launch last autumn of the Anglo-Polish Legal Association, which aims to introduce Polish lawyers to English commercial and banking law practice.

Now, with the backing of a cross-section of leading City law firms, the first group of Polish lawyers has arrived in London. Three men and two women, of various ages and backgrounds, are at work in the company and commercial departments of Simmons & Simmons, Theodore Goddard, Linklaters, Baker & McKenzie and Macfarlanes. And later this year a further group will descend on most of the other big names in the City.

Speaking with Joanna Tomaszek, who is attached to Simmons & Simmons, it was quickly evident that there is a real eagerness to learn the way London lawyers do things. Miss Tomaszek works in the Legal Information and Service centre of the Chamber of Foreign Trade and is deeply involved in giving advice to Polish enterprises about links



Learning English ways, left to right: Adam Szczepankowski, Jerry Walter of City firm Simmons & Simmons, Andrzej Sieniatkowski, Elizabeth Pajyna-Nowak, Joanna Tomaszek and Leszek Zgodka

with the West. But, as she explained, if joint ventures are to be developed between Polish enterprises and British companies, or if substantial investment is to be attracted from London, then it is critical that the Poles should understand the nature of the capitalist system with which they deal.

By getting first-hand experience of the takeover bids, mergers and management buy-outs, which are the bread and butter of the big City firms, it is hoped that Miss Tomaszek and her colleagues will gain a grasp of the principles by

which we operate. For its part, Poland has revised its commercial code several times in recent years, reflecting the political change in events. Another new code — "a fat one containing 700 articles", as Miss Tomaszek described it — will be published soon.

Above all, the Poles are keen to make it as easy as possible for Western companies to set up in Poland, but in doing this they have had to tackle seriously, for the first time in two generations, the possibility of bankruptcies and the other hazards of capitalist life.

"In some cases we are returning to our pre-Second World War code," Miss Tomaszek said, "because that dealt with a number of these issues quite adequately."

Interest in investing in Poland has grown dramatically in recent months. Just over 800 joint ventures were set up in the latter half of 1988 and 1989. Since last January more than 200 new joint ventures have been established.

It is clear, therefore, that the interest of lawyers in Poland has now moved on beyond the intricate and tedious discussions about

the rescheduling of loans. Jerry Walter, of Simmons & Simmons, said: "In the past eight weeks clients have contacted me about hotel developments, a joint publishing venture and the setting up of branch offices in Poland. So real legal questions are now being asked about Poland. It is very exciting."

So, although the Poles may be going through enormous changes, at least they are managing to explain them a lot more effectively than some of their neighbours.

Not surprisingly, perhaps, reform of the legal profession itself is a big issue in Poland. Traditionally, it has been divided into advocates, in-house legal advisers, notaries, and professional judges (who tend to rank low in the pecking order). Attempts are being made to redraw the various areas of activity, while a number of advocates are already in the process of starting up private offices along Western lines.

Seeing the size and strength of the London law firms is proving to be something of an inspiration for Miss Tomaszek and her colleagues. None the less, the switch to a capitalist economy may be harder than they think. Mr Walter said, adding: "So we're delighted to help them in any way we can."

"And as well as having London law firms participating in this programme I'm sure it would be useful to have some major regional law firms as members of the association."

Further information about the Anglo-Polish Legal Association is available from John Murphy at Theodore Goddard (01-606 8855).

INNS AND OUTS

A group of lawyers from Amnesty International's British section returned last week from a visit to the Soviet Union which resulted in the establishment of the country's first Amnesty group. In the past, Amnesty has been condemned by the Soviets as a "capitalist tool" designed to undermine their country by criticizing its human rights record. *Glavost* has, however, resulted in the repeal of several of the Soviet Union's most notorious restrictions on human rights, including provisions in the criminal code prohibiting "anti-Soviet propaganda" and "anti-Soviet slander", leading to an atmosphere more receptive to open discussion of human rights issues. For example, the independent magazine *Moscow News*, which also appears in several foreign languages, carried an article discussing Amnesty and its work.

The British lawyers, led by barrister Derek Willmott, met with a small group of Soviet citizens in Leningrad who wish to set up an Amnesty group, and arrangements are being made through Amnesty's international secretariat in London. As with other Amnesty groups throughout the world, the new group will not concern itself with the Soviet human rights issues but will monitor and act on events overseas. Those on the visit believe that the establishment of an Amnesty group in the Soviet Union testifies not only to an increased willingness on the part of Soviet citizens to discuss human rights openly, but also to an improvement in the credibility of the Soviet Union as a country with something to say about human rights abuses beyond its borders.

The Inland Revenue appears to have some set views about who should do what around the house and who is entitled to payment for it, as one now irate barrister, recently found. It emerged at a Bar Council meeting that it has long been the practice of certain members of the Bar to ask their wives to perform basic office tasks for them, such as receiving courier deliveries and sending faxes, and that nominal salaries paid to wives for these tasks have been accepted by the Inland Revenue as a tax-deductible expense for the barristers.

One woman barrister, whose children's nanny had performed similar tasks for her, applied to the Revenue to adopt the same principle and deduct a small part of her nanny's salary from her own tax bill. To her extreme annoyance the Revenue refused, on the basis that it was a normal part of a nanny's duties to do office work for her employer.

America's A.H. Robins Co Inc was brought to its knees by the law suits that followed the discovery that the Dalkon Shield contraceptive device had caused infertility in several thousand women. Now it has only one aspect of the saga still to resolve — the legal fees of the lawyers involved in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Many of them were subjected to a fee cap and billed at far less than their usual hourly rate. Nevertheless, \$40 million has been requested so far and \$30 million has been paid out by Robins. New York's Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom has received by far the largest amount — \$11 million, as counsel in the bankruptcy. This compares with \$3.7 million paid to New York's Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft, which represented the Dalkon Shield Claimants Committee.

Wolverhampton's Telford Management Services has unveiled a new system designed to make billing as easy as buying the weekly groceries. The solicitor would merely scan barcodes with a data pen, allowing the firm to establish detailed productivity analyses to determine the hours spent on a particular matter, with the minimum paper work. But what would happen if the solicitor decided to work at home and stopped off to do the shopping? If the checkout system picked up the codes tucked away in a top pocket, would the hapless solicitor find a pint of milk clocking in at an hourly rate of £100-plus?

Scrivener

How to press your case

Like it or not, the Press come knocking from time to time and law firms have learnt to respond and, indeed, to go on the offensive with varying degrees of skill. But according to Press people who deal regularly with lawyers, the quality of response leaves considerable room for improvement.

Lawyers are not necessarily worse at handling the Press than people in the business sector, but they are often more cautious. Some are still accused of being rather naïve — for example, by inviting journalists out to lunch and then asking them at the end not to publish anything.

Alternatively, some firms have a spokesman who is wheeled out to give the official "line".

"Life was much easier when you could just phone up a partner and have a good conversation," one journalist told me.

It is often against the instincts of a

lawyer — and, of course, sometimes the rules of client confidentiality — to open up to the Press. Those who handle the Press successfully, particularly on sensitive matters, know how journalists work and have learnt to trust a few key writers who will come back to them. They have also learnt how to be succinct.

Joshua Rozenberg, for four years the BBC Radio legal correspondent, and now reporting for BBC Television, says the ability to get it "in one" is essential.

"Only a few firms understand broadcast media," he says. "We need a brief, succinct response and we need it immediately. We are always looking for experts on particular subjects, but there are not

many who are instantly available."

Law firms also need to understand the way journalists work and, therefore, to think before they speak. "Occasionally people phone and say they have been misquoted," one journalist said, "so I read them my notes. They protest, 'ah, well, what I meant to say was...'"

It is also important to understand that journalists have deadlines and that to be quoted it is important to call them back promptly. Nor should you ask the journalist to return to you with a quote for approval, nor to send you copy before publication. Unless the subject is highly technical, this shows mistrust and, anyway, you will probably be dropped due to lack of time.

Lynne Greenwood, associate director of Broad Street Associates, a public relations firm, advises:

● Talk about issues, not cases, and take the opportunity to make a point about your firm.

● If you prefer not to answer a question, say so.

● Do not expect to see a Press release printed verbatim, and do not expect every meeting with a journalist to produce an article.

● Try to be friendly, come across as a human being who knows the subject.

● Put a figure on something and give clear judgements.

The "media stars" are generally reckoned to be Vanni Treves, at

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

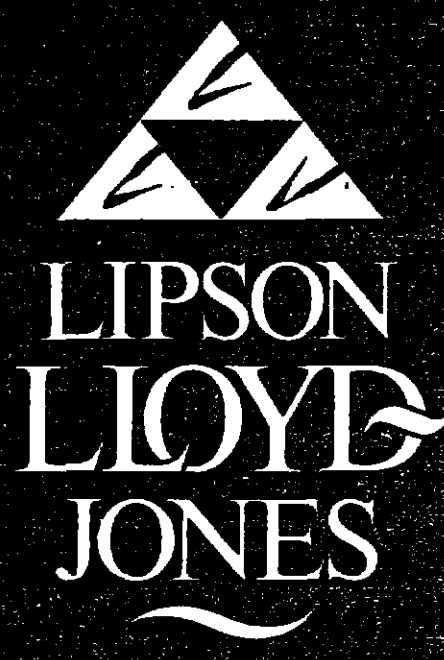
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Excellent partnership prospects are offered to an ambitious solicitor in the growing litigation department of this go-ahead young firm. The successful candidate will deal with a general mixture of civil litigation with an emphasis towards developing an already busy commercial clientele. Salary and benefits package first-class.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL £25,000+

City

Recently qualified plus, solicitor with good city experience in company/commercial work is sought to join this young expanding practice. This is an excellent opportunity for someone looking for a challenging case-load and the opportunity to strengthen and develop the department. Long term prospects and benefits are superb.

CONVEYANCING £25,000+

West Country

Leading practice with offices throughout the West Country is currently seeking young conveyancers, up to 3 years qualified, to handle a mixture of both Commercial and Residential work. Excellent prospects in this progressive firm offering challenging and high quality case-load. Remuneration package first-class.

For more details of these or many more opportunities we are able to offer throughout Central London and the Provinces call or write with full CV to:
Paul Staplehurst or
Andrew Vivian
01 236 4402
63 Carter Lane
London EC4V 5HE

ASA
LAWCompany Secretary (Designate)
Teddington c£45,000+ car and benefits

Our client, Thames Television PLC, is the largest independent TV contractor, with revenues exceeding £250m. The forthcoming franchise reviews, and the various diversification moves currently being made, mean that the company is entering a very exciting period. Acquisitions, increasing production and increasing overseas involvements have all raised the amount of Head Office activity.

Two retirements over the next eighteen months mean that there is now a need to recruit a Company Secretary (Designate), to become Company Secretary in 1991. In addition to the responsibilities normally associated with this position within a plc, the successful candidate will also have the potential to operate in a wide administrative capacity and must be able to communicate at all levels within the company.

You should be a barrister, solicitor, chartered accountant or chartered secretary with a minimum of 5 years post qualification experience with plc and Stock Exchange regulations experience. Ideally you should be aged mid-thirties, with a demonstrable record of achievement, and looking to make a move where you can contribute to the continued success of the business.

If you think you are the self-starter we are seeking, please write to Geoffrey Rutland, FCA ATII, at the address below, quoting the reference 1626, and giving concise career and salary details and a daytime telephone number, or phone him on 01-583 3303 (office) or 01-878 8395 (home).

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EUROPEAN
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ATTORNEYS

A Firm of European Patent Attorneys based in London has an opening for a young lawyer to work in the field of trade marks. The work will entail prosecution and protection of trade marks and brand names, infringement, licences, opinions and corporate policy advice for a wide range of clients including British based multi-national companies. Please write with full curriculum vitae to: Gary Baker, Patent Attorneys, E.G.C., Jenkins & Co., 26 Essex Street, London WC2R 3EP.

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International Insurance and Trade City

From £35,000

Due to continuing success in exciting and challenging opportunity has arisen with this leading city firm for a commercial litigator.

The firm is based in the heart of the city, close to the Lloyd's market and the commodity exchanges and, consequently, its major strength is the resolution of all types of commercial disputes, in particular, insurance, shipping and international trade.

Accordingly, applications for this position are welcomed from candidates, 2-4 years admitted, who possess a strong academic record, excellent relevant experience gained at a recognised insurance practice, as well as the commercial skills required to deal with the demands of this fast moving and rapidly evolving area of the law.

This is a key appointment and hence, only candidates who are of partnership calibre can be considered.

For further details please contact Rose Hellewell or Michael Turner on (01) 583 0073 (Day) or (01) 402 9610 (Evenings and Weekends). Or fax your CV on (01) 353 3908.

29-31 Oxford Street, London W1R 1RE.

16-18 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6AU.

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recruitment specialists

Commercial Lawyer Central London To £45,000

An exceptional opportunity exists for a lawyer with 1 to 4 years commercial experience to become part of this prestigious multi-national public company.

Their well-structured legal department deals with a variety of national and international issues. The successful applicant will be directly responsible for corporate and commercial matters including acquisitions and disposals, joint ventures, negotiation and drafting of commercial contracts and will give general advice on corporate strategic policy.

Applicants must be professionals with strong academic backgrounds, a proven commercial record and the ability to work within a dynamic team. There will be opportunities to travel abroad, often with short notice.

Lawyers within the organisation are encouraged to develop their legal careers and those who show the ability may be considered, in the future, for management positions outside the legal department.

For further details please contact Deirdra Moylan or Mandy Brown on (01) 583 0073 (Day) or (01) 328 0931 (Evenings and Weekends). Or fax your CV on (01) 439 4106.

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Director of Legal and Contracts Hi-Tech/Information Systems

A unique company, our client provides solutions for managerial and operational problems through the application of professional and technical services and advanced software systems and technology.

An opportunity has arisen for a commercially-minded lawyer to assume a high-profile role, actively contributing to the success and forward direction of the company. Working together with the commercial managers and customers, responsibilities will include significant emphasis on the negotiation and control of complex contracts and agreements. As the sole in-house lawyer in Europe, this broad role will also encompass general company/commercial matters, employment law, intellectual property and company secretarial work.

Applications are invited from qualified lawyers or chartered secretaries with a

minimum of three years' commercial experience, ideally gained in the hi-tech sector. Candidates must be able to demonstrate excellent negotiating skills and the ability to work to tight deadlines.

The remuneration package is substantial and will reflect the seniority of the position. Benefits include a company car, non-contributory pension, bonus scheme and private health insurance.

Interested applicants should forward their CV (including details of current salary and benefits) to Liz Salter or Simon Hankley at Michael Page Legal, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH (fax number 01-831 2612).

Details will be held in the strictest confidentiality and will not be forwarded to our client without express prior permission.



Michael Page Legal
International Recruitment Consultants

In-house Corporate/ Commercial Lawyer

- ◆ Newly qualified to 3 years' experience
- ◆ International corporate/commercial work
- ◆ £ City Rates + Car + Benefits

Our client is a highly successful, profitable public company founded just over eleven years ago. An impressive record of international acquisitions and organic growth has created a group which is now ranked at the forefront of their sector. Fully listed on the London Stock Exchange, its market capitalisation is now in excess of £4 billion.

The group is currently seeking a bright, dynamic young lawyer, reporting to the Legal Director/Company Secretary, with responsibility for advising on company and commercial law matters in general, including an important role in mergers and acquisitions and their financing. Therefore experience in City financing and Yellow Book procedures is desirable although not essential. Responsibilities will also include acting as assistant company secretary for the PLC and its main subsidiaries. The position is based in Bromley, Kent, although the international nature of the group will necessitate some

overseas travel.

The candidate sought must demonstrate exceptional personal qualities, a sense of humour, together with an excellent academic background. The ability to learn quickly and to be competent in high profile meetings is essential, as is the desire to be involved commercially. It is also important to be able to work well both in a team environment and autonomously.

The salary and remuneration package is first class and will be attractive to ambitious successful lawyers.

Interested applicants should forward a detailed CV (including details of current salary and benefits), to Liz Salter at Michael Page Legal, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH (Fax No. 01-831 2612). Details will be held in the strictest confidentiality and will not be forwarded to our client without express prior permission.



Michael Page Legal
International Recruitment Consultants



The case for joining the Army Legal Corps.

The Army Legal Corps is looking for qualified lawyers to join in September 1990.

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Variety, the opportunity to travel, six weeks annual leave and access to unparalleled sport and adventure training facilities.

We are looking for 23-30 year-old solicitors, barristers with one year's pupillage (or previous practical experience) or advocates to attend a selection board in late May.

For more details, contact Lieutenant Colonel Peter Bryant LLB, Directorate of Army Legal Services, Ministry of Defence, Empress State Building, Lillie Road, London SW6 1TR. Telephone 01-385 1244 (Ext. 3182).

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Medium sized firm requires lawyer from private practice or the banking sector to advise on commercial and fiscal implications of Joint Venture structures.

WC2 - Music & TV - to £35,000

A leading Entertainment practice requires a lawyer with 2 years experience of company/commercial work with an entertainment bias.

CITY - Patent Lawyer - to £40,000

Major City practice requires solicitors/barristers with 1 to 3 years experience of I.P. work particularly Patent High Court actions. Expanding department.

CITY - Banking - Newly Qualified

Large City firm requires solicitors/barristers who wish to train in the Banking Department. Good academic background required.

MIDLANDS - CHEMICAL INDUSTRY - to £35,000
Chemical producer requires solicitors/barristers who have experience in commercial contracts, licensing, intellectual property and EEC legislation.

Garfield Robbins

Legal Recruitment and Search Consultants 21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH Contact Nicholas Robbins or Gavin Crocker on 01-405 1123 (evenings 01-538 8391)

4, STONE BUILDINGS THE CHAMBERS OF PETER CURRY Q.C.

The practices of members of these chambers comprise litigation and advice in the company/business/commercial general Chancery fields.

We aim to give all pupils a full opportunity to gain the knowledge, skills and practical experience they need when embarking on a career at the Bar.

The recruitment policy is to take a new member of Chambers each year.

We offer 3 first six month and 2 second six month pupillages. Each of the pupils taking up these places will receive an award of £3,800 per six months.

In addition, we offer 2 scholarships of £10,000 each for the year to two successful pupils, subject to being satisfied of their calibre.

If you are looking for pupillage and eventually to practise law in the above fields as a barrister with potential for substantial earnings and are of high calibre, with good personality and ambition then please apply to David Goddard (our Senior Clerk) by letter with CV and 2 academic references. In the first instance, you may prefer to telephone or call in for an informal talk with David Goddard.

4, Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2 3XT
01-242-5524

Commercial Solicitor Financial Sector

Manchester

Our client is one of Britain's largest and most respected insurance and investment organisations. With the continued growth of the financial sector, our client is developing into new markets, with the aim of consolidating its previous excellent performance into the 1990s and beyond.

An internal promotion has resulted in the need to recruit a commercially aware solicitor, to be a part of a small, dedicated team involved in stock exchange and related financial activities and compliance. Your duties will include settling and negotiating agreements for funding and direct investment, and dealing with the practical application of compliance requirements.

up to £28,000 + Bens

Ideally you will have between two and four years' post qualification, commercial experience and a practical and mature approach. This should be coupled with enthusiasm, an ability to communicate simply and the desire to be in a fast-moving business environment. In return, our client offers an excellent starting salary and good promotion prospects. A generous relocation package will be offered where appropriate.

For further information about this position, please contact Mark Amsden LL.B, B.Ec on 061-228 0396 or write to him at Michael Page Legal, Clarendon House, 81 Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3LQ, enclosing a full curriculum vitae.



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invite applications from practising barristers of up to 7 years call to join Chancery Chambers specialising in the company/business/commercial fields with an emphasis on litigation.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence and should be addressed to Peter Curry Q.C. marked "Tenancy".

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CAMERON MARKBY HEWITT
INSOLVENCY - BRISTOL

Our Client, acknowledged in the City as being pre-eminent in the rapidly expanding area of insolvency, is seeking an ambitious, experienced insolvency lawyer to spearhead the growth of its new Bristol office.

Liaising with the firm's litigation and banking departments, and enjoying the resources and back-up that a large City firm can provide, the successful candidate will be involved in the full range of non-contentious insolvency, including advising on administrations, assisting administrative receivers in continuing companies' trade and the eventual disposal of assets, and working closely with liquidators both before and after appointment. The work will be challenging and prestigious.

Candidates should ideally have at least 3 years' relevant experience and the flair and desire to take a leading role in practice development. They will be offered an unusually competitive package, a quality of life not found in London and the prospects of rapid career progression.

For further information, please contact **Alistair Dougall** on 01-405 6062 (01-773 3702 evenings/weekends), or write to **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
PARTNER

Our Client's reputation, built on the quality and commerciality of its service, has swiftly established the firm as a major legal force in the City. It is poised for further strategic growth in the 1990's.

The firm's prestigious corporate client base includes national and international manufacturers and distributors, television and media clients, software companies, banks and institutions. These currently generate a significant stream of quality intellectual property work, both contentious and non-contentious.

The firm is committed to developing the international side of its practice and enjoys a substantial reputation for European Community Law. It is already established in Brussels and has connections with major overseas law firms.

An experienced IP litigator, ideally with a following, is sought to spearhead and act as a focus for the development of the contentious side of the firm's intellectual property practice.

Already a partner (or very senior assistant) elsewhere, the remuneration package and partnership drawings at this, one of the City's most profitable and professionally managed firms, will be attractive.

For further information, please contact **Jonathan Macrae** on 01-405 6062 (01-672 8340 evenings/weekends) or write to him at **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



QUARRY DOUGALL

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Commercial
Legal Adviser

Oil Industry - London

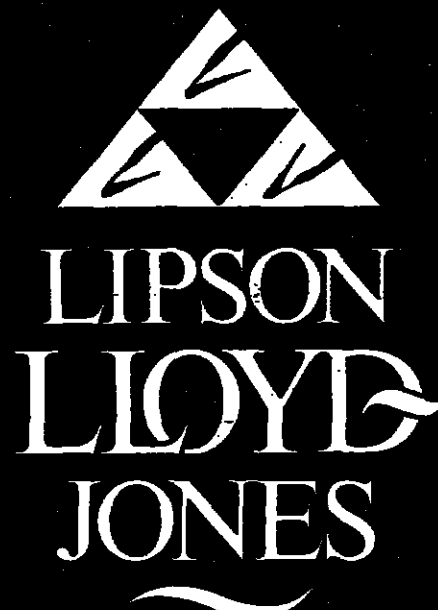
Substantial Salary + Car + Benefits

Our client is a major independent oil and gas exploration and production company. In addition to operating two major producing fields in the North Sea, the Company is currently developing one of the largest discoveries in recent years which is scheduled to be on stream by the end of 1993.

The Company now wishes to recruit a Solicitor or Barrister with at least four years high quality commercial experience, preferably gained within the oil industry. The Legal Department, which currently comprises four Legal Advisers, has a proactive approach and plays a major commercial role in the Company's exploration and production activities.

Reporting to the Senior Legal Adviser, the successful candidate will handle a complex and varied caseload of exploration and production matters, and must be able to demonstrate a strong commercial approach allied to well developed negotiating and drafting skills. The ability to communicate well is also essential as the role will necessitate extensive liaison with all levels of staff and management.

A substantial salary is offered together with a car, non-contributory pension, heavily subsidised private medical insurance, 25 days holiday, and a range of other typical large company benefits. If you would like to be considered for this challenging position contact **June Mesrié**, a Solicitor, or **Lucy Boyd**, a Barrister.

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24 HOURS

THE LEGAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

ANGLIA
Television LimitedCOMPANY LAWYER/
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COMPANY SECRETARY

Anglia Television is seeking a young lawyer to take up the post of Company Lawyer/Assistant Company Secretary based in Norwich.

The successful applicant will be the reference point for all matters of legal significance in the course of the Company's activities and this will include legal issues relating to programme content. The job holder will report to the Company Secretary and assist him in his role as well as being responsible for the Programme Contracts Department.

This challenging post would suit an individual who has qualified as a solicitor or barrister and has a number of years post qualifying experience. Career development prospects are excellent. A background in the entertainment or publishing industry, whilst not essential, would be a distinct advantage.

The salary package would be around £30k plus a car. Please apply in writing enclosing full curriculum vitae by Tuesday 17th April 1990

quoting reference number 172/PDM to:

Peter Meier, Director of Personnel,

Anglia Television Limited,

Anglia House, Norwich NR1 3JG.

We are an equal opportunities employer.

Partnership

S.E. Hampshire

Our client is a small firm based in a prosperous and growing business community. It specialises in the fields of property and probate and has a firm client base founded on personal contacts and representation of a small charitable owned banking institution. This has enabled the firm to remain busy in times of recession and provide the expectation for continued profit growth. The firm has attractive town centre offices with space for expansion.

With more work on offer than can be efficiently handled by the current staff, the partners seek a colleague to help develop the practice. Candidates, probably aged 30-45, should have gained a broad experience in the property field, including associated litigation. The partners are seeking someone willing to make a long term commitment and possessing the personal qualities to facilitate the continued profitable development of the practice.

After a short probationary period, the new partner will share fully in the equity of the business.

Please apply to Sir Timothy Hoare, Career Plan Ltd, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS. Tel: 01-242 5775 (01-607 7359 between 7.30 and 9.30 pm). Fax: 01-831 7623.



Personnel Consultants

City West End

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We are instructed by a recognised Central London firm to recruit an additional member for its high profile shipping department. He/she will be admitted around two years and be well versed in e.g. charterparty disputes and cargo and collision claims.

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c.£33,000

A recently admitted solicitor, wishing to specialise in good quality commercial property, is sought for the expanding property department of a progressive Covent Garden practice.

PRIVATE CLIENT

c.£35,000

The private client department of a prominent City firm requires an Assistant Solicitor to supplement its team dealing with the whole range of private client work with an emphasis on trusts, taxation and offshore settlements. He/she will join a friendly and informal department with excellent prospects of advancement.

Out of London

LITIGATION

To £25,000+

A leading Manchester practice needs a solicitor, with up to two years relevant exp., to handle defendant insurance litigation. There are good prospects for the right applicant.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

£AAE

This leading commercial practice in Buckinghamshire seeks a solicitor for an exclusively commercial caseload of High Court litigation including sale of goods, building disputes and employment matters in particular. The ideal applicant will be 1-2 years qualified and from a substantial commercial practice. Salary will be competitive.

CONVEYANCING

c.£25,000

A small but buoyant practice close to the Essex/London border seeks a solicitor to handle a mixed caseload but with a bias towards mixed conveyancing. Ability to assist in litigation and matrimonial matters is required.

Barristers

We are instructed by a number of Central London and City practices to recruit barristers with specialist expertise. Experience gained during and since pupillage, especially in company/commercial law, intellectual property, town and country planning, tax and commercial litigation will attract highly competitive salaries.

90 Qualifiers

Now is the time to contact us for advice and help in planning the next and vital step in your career. For those qualifying this year, there is a wide variety of vacancies in firms ranging from the smaller, progressive practices to the leading names in the City and Central London and throughout the country. Telephone or write to us in strictest confidence if you are looking for a challenging and rewarding future.

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The Legal Section of the Anglian region of the NRA deals with a variety of complex matters. This key role therefore demands legal expertise in many areas: Environmental, Planning, Property, Construction, Employment, Parliamentary, Criminal and Civil Litigation.

As a senior legal professional you will have around 10 years' experience and the drive and enthusiasm to take on the challenges of this new organisation.

The Regional Headquarters is based in new

purpose-built offices on the outskirts of Peterborough, just off the A1. Peterborough is a fine cathedral City with excellent amenities, recreation and schooling facilities and has a superb road and rail network. It also has the distinction of being the fastest growing City in Europe.

Further details and application forms are obtainable from the Personnel Section on (0733) 371811 ext. 4143. You are at liberty to contact the present postholder, Terry Williams, on (0733) 371811 ext. 4434 if you would like to discuss the matter further prior to submitting a formal application.

Completed applications should be returned to the address shown by no later than 1st May 1990. National Rivers Authority, Anglian Region, Kingsfisher House, Goldway Way, Orton Goldroy, Peterborough PE2 0ZZ.

Senior Lawyer

Commercial Property

Excellent Salary + Car + Mortgage Benefit

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Handling multi-million pound deals, you will be responsible for managing a small team of Lawyers in this demanding area. You will probably be a Solicitor or Barrister with at least three years commercial property experience and a talent for advising on commercial decisions.

In return for your commercial acumen and expertise, we offer an excellent salary, mortgage benefit, company car, pension, Private Patients Plan and relocation where appropriate.

Interested? Then please telephone for an application form or send full CV quoting salary expectations to: Karen Martin, Personnel Manager, Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, Chief Office, Barnett Way, Gloucester GL4 7RL. Tel: Gloucester (0452) 372372 ext 3352.

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

OPPORTUNITY FOR A PART-TIME PRIVATE CLIENT INFORMATION OFFICER

Our Private Client Department has a regular need for accurate and up-to-date information, accessible and carefully indexed.

The Private Client Information Officer will be closely involved in the work of the Department, supporting it by the production of a bi-monthly briefing, and by assembling and collating a range of general legal and specific case information.

Applicants should be computer literate and capable of communicating well with Partners and staff in the Department. A background in the law, either as a solicitor or barrister, and strong organisational ability are essential.

Hours of work will be at least 25 per week, precise timings to be decided by mutual agreement.

Please write with full C.V. to Rodney Barker, Allen & Overy, 9 Cheapside, London EC2V 6AD.

ALLEN & OVERY

Personal Injury

East Anglia

Birkett Westhorp & Long is the largest law firm in Suffolk and Essex. Our Litigation Department in Ipswich requires an additional solicitor in its established personal injury department.

Applicants should have at least 3 years relevant post qualification experience and will receive appropriate salary and fringe benefits.

The successful candidate who demonstrates an ability to handle a substantial caseload without supervision should move quickly on to partnership status.

If you would like to apply please write enclosing a C.V. to:

Mrs Cilla Stevens,
Birkett Westhorp & Long,
20-32 Museum Street,
Ipswich IP1 1HZ



CLARKE WILLMOTT & CLARKE

Commercial Property Solicitor
West Country

Our expanding commercial property department would welcome a Solicitor with up to 5 years p.q.e. with a leading City or provincial firm to join their team based at Taunton.

A broad range of work will be involved, including commercial leases, development acquisition, disposals and acquisitions, equity-sharing arrangements, joint ventures, funding and commercial estate development.

Applications are invited from commercially minded solicitors with ability to contribute as a member of a hard working team. In addition to an improved quality of life and exposure to stimulating work, applicants can expect a competitive remuneration package and excellent prospects. Assistance with relocation expenses where appropriate. Salary to £25,000 a.a.e.

Please write with full C.V. to Robert Hunt, Clarke, Willmott & Clarke, 6 Hammet Street, Taunton, TA1 1RG. Tel: 0823 - 337474

Applied Management Sciences

PRIVATE PRACTICE

INSURANCE LITIGATION PARTNER DESIGNATE

City £100,000
Leading medium sized practice seeks a lawyer 4-8 years PQE to join them handling a quality work load acting for the London Insurance market and relating to single incident catastrophes. The firm is extremely friendly and progressive.

INSOLVENCY PARTNER DESIGNATE

City £100,000
Our client is a medium sized international practice, with an outstanding reputation in many commercial fields.

Its newly created insolvency department seeks an additional solicitor with 3-8 years PQE to assist in its expansion; it already has a good flow of work. Applications are sought from experienced practitioners with non contentious or contentious experience.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PARTNER DESIGNATE

City £100,000
Unique opportunity for an experienced lawyer with 5 years PQE to set up an IP department with this leading (60 partners) law firm. You will have either contentious or noncontentious intellectual property experience, have presence and the desire to create a high-standing department.

CONSIDERING A MOVE OUT OF LONDON?

Nationwide £18-£45k
We are currently instructed by many firms in private practice nationwide seeking young solicitors with partnership potential and good quality relevant experience to join their company commercial, insolvency, litigation, matrimonial and commercial property departments. Please contact us to discuss the many opportunities available.

For further information please call or write to Karen Mulvihill or Ian Pearce
Applied Management Sciences Ltd., 25-28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE
Tel: 01-405 4571 Evenings 01-838 7848 Fax 01-242 1471

Corporate Finance

Working in Corporate Finance Law is one thing, but taking responsibility for deals is often another. At McKenna & Co you will be encouraged to use your experience and initiative in this demanding legal discipline.

The Challenge

The work is varied and wide-ranging: full and USM listings, placings, corporate restructuring, take-overs and mergers (agreed and contested) and yellow book work as well as high quality general company work. We work closely with the major merchant banks and financial institutions as well as a very broad range of public listed companies.

Our continued success means that we wish to appoint further lawyers with at least two years' relevant experience in this area. We offer premium City remuneration together with excellent partnership prospects and a comprehensive training programme.

For further information please contact Bernadette Willoughby in strictest confidence on 01-836 2442 or alternatively, please send your CV to her at McKenna & Co, 71 Queen Victoria Street, EC4V 4EB.

McKENNA & Co

LONDON - BAHRAIN - BRUSSELS - HONG KONG
SINGAPORE - TOKYO

Assistant Company Secretary

North of England

Package c £30,000 plus car

This post is at the heart of a rapidly-growing quoted plc with a market capitalisation over £500m. Reporting to the Company Secretary, the successful candidate will manage the statutory side of the function and play a major part in servicing the Group Boards, in managing registrar services and administering share schemes etc. Many of these systems and services are newly created and require further professional input from the appointee to carry them into maturity. The post offers further development potential into such areas as acquisitions, risk management and investor relations, as well as positive opportunities for further promotion.

Candidates should be educated to degree level and be professionally qualified. Proven relevant and

successful experience in the Secretary's Department of a substantial plc is a prerequisite. The Executive Directorate of the Group is small and highly integrated and the candidate, probably in his or her 30's should be comfortable working independently and with a high profile in such an environment.

The initial remuneration package is expected to be c. £30,000 with a range of benefits including car and relocation assistance if required. To apply please send a comprehensive CV quoting ref: 3626 to Ross Monro, Theaker Monro and Newman, Regency Court, 62-66 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 2EN, or telephone his secretary on 061-832 0033 for an application form.

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The above are only a small selection from the positions we are currently instructed to fill. If you would like to discuss any of these or any other aspect of your career, please telephone Anne Stephenson/Fiona Cass (Private Practice) or Laurence Simons/Shona McDougall (Commerce/Industry).
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Or write to: Laurence Simons Associates, 33 John's Mews, London WC1N 2NS.
We are qualified lawyers with extensive experience in legal recruitment and all approaches are treated in strict confidence.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

DARTFORD AND GRAVESHAM HEALTH AUTHORITY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & INFORMATION

Circa £35,000 p.a. + PRP
(Lease car, Partnership Mortgage Scheme, Creche facilities and Relocation Expenses available)

Following the planned retirement of our present Director later this year, we need a vigorous, experienced and qualified Senior Financial Manager, to take us into the challenging future.

This is more than just a technical and managerial role - with an overall District budget of £55M per annum and sixty staff, the Director will be a Board Member of the DHA Executive, collectively responsible for designing and implementing the new arrangements following from the Government's White Papers.

Development of Information Systems is a key element of the post and the Director will provide strategic drive and oversight in this area.

Interested applicants are invited to discuss the post informally with the District General Manager, Mr. Tony Marchant on Ext. 323, and/or with the existing Director, Mrs. Doreen Giles, on Ext. 340.

Telephone: Dartford (0322) 229322

Application form and information package may be obtained from the District Personnel Department, Dartford & Gravesham Health Authority, District Headquarters, Darenth Park Hospital, Dartford, Kent DA2 6LZ.

Closing Date: 30th April 1990

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HENDON COLLEGE DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL SERVICES

This is a new post, designed to assist the College to meet its obligations in personnel and related management issues. A Graduate and/or Institute of Personnel Management qualification is an essential requirement for this post. We are seeking to appoint a person with strong personal and professional skills, combining drive and energy with a sensitive approach to the management of change. The person appointed will be a member of the Senior Management Team.

Salary £21,000 +.
Closing date for receipt of completed application form is Wednesday, 11th April, 1990.

Application form and further details are available from Angela Matthew at Hendon College, Corner Mead, Grahame Park, Colindale, London, NW9 5RA. Telephone: 01-200 8300 ext. 218.

HORIZONS

The world still wants the British nanny

Overworked, underpaid, the new servant class. This was the description of nannies given by two academic researchers when they reported the results of a survey to the Institute of British Geographers.

But is this the real picture? Some girls are exploited, usually those without qualifications who have failed to insist on a proper contract of employment. They are often expected to work long days for as little as £1 or £1.50 an hour. However, properly trained nursery nurses with good references have employers competing for their services.

Although the job is always demanding, nannies can usually stipulate certain conditions of employment, often including the use of a car, and demand a good salary. The minimum for a qualified nurse trained at the respected Norland Nursery Training College is £140 a week, and up to £250, depending on other aspects of the remuneration package. A college-leaver, living in, can expect about £85 (more in London).

The longest-standing qualification is the certificate of the National Nursery Examination Board, obtained at either a local authority or private nursery training college. Over the two-year course (there is also provision for part-time study), students spend 40 per cent of their time working with children aged up to seven and 60 per cent at college.

Well-trained nursery nurses can name their price, unlike the child carers of yesteryear, Joan Venner reports

The board does not lay down any specific entry qualification. However, colleges are usually over-subscribed and some require students to have two or more GCSEs at grade C or above. Private colleges ask for at least three GCSE grade C passes, one of which must be English language.

In recent years, two other well-regarded qualifications have been introduced: the National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare Diploma and the BTEC National Diploma in Caring Services (Nursery Nursing).

Child care is a fast-growing area of employment. An increasing number of two-income families needs someone to look after their children and more firms are providing crèches and nurseries to

attract women with families back to work. The Midland Bank, for example, offers day-care facilities in 10 places and hopes to expand this scheme to 300.

Of those who completed the NNEB course at West Kent College, at Tonbridge, in 1989, about half found posts as nannies in private households. Several went into day nurseries, one became a nursery officer and others found jobs in a maternity ward, a mother and baby home, a crèche in an adult education centre, a prep school and in nursery and reception classes in state schools. Now that efforts are being made to incorporate children with special needs into ordinary schools, nursery nurses are often employed as care assistants.

Many nursery nurses want to travel and there is a big demand for UK-trained nannies. Mrs Sheila Davis, who runs Albemarle Nannies, sends hundreds of nannies overseas each year to look after the children of Arab sheikhs,

European bankers, North American businessmen and women, as well as royal households in Europe, the Middle East and Far East.

Mrs Davis interviews both nannies and families in an effort to ensure compatibility. She stresses that a contract is essential: that the type of accommodation to be provided, hours of work, time off, holidays, arrangement for payment of national insurance and so on must be agreed beforehand. Contracts also include a clause requiring the nanny to be discreet and not gossip about the family for whom she is working.

Mrs Louise Davis, principal of the Norland Nursery Training College, says that a nursery nurse undertakes everything connected with the children. A nurse plays with them, cleans their rooms and bathroom, washes and irons their clothes, shops for them and organizes birthday parties. Anyone wanting to become a nursery nurse must find children a challenge rather than frustrating.

Further information can be obtained from the National Nursery Examination Board, 8 Chequer Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 3XZ, and about the NAMCW Diploma from the London Academy of Pre-School Education, 66a George Street, London W1H 5RG.



Rewarding days: Sarah Smith and Freddie Humphrey, aged two

NANNY AT HOME

SARAH Smith had sole care of a London boy, aged two, plus dog and cat, while the boy's parents were on holiday. The Chiswick family obviously felt comfortable leaving her in such a responsible position because she has a broad range of experience. After obtaining her NNEB qualification in Bradford, Miss Smith, aged 23, did several temporary jobs while waiting for a work permit for Canada.

Her first job in Canada was with a family consisting of a doctor, a nurse and four children, aged five, four, two and a newborn baby. Initially her hours were long, and she had little time off. Once she complained, things improved and a car was provided.

After spending a fourth year as a nanny with another family, Miss Smith went to Vancouver to do secretarial work, and travelled throughout the United States. She also studied typing, shorthand and word processing.

Miss Smith says it is important to talk things through before accepting a job. "You must discuss food, discipline and ideas on education. I don't believe in smacking a child. When you do punish children, you have to be sure that the parents will back you."

She also warns that even if a nanny is treated like a member of the family, she must not get too involved. "I prefer not to sit with the parents for an evening meal. I would rather eat with the children so that the parents can have some time together in the evening."

Asked about her future, she says: "When I have got the travel bug out of my system, I want to run my own nursery school."

Continued From Previous Page

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS



National Rivers
Authority
Anglian Region

ENGINEERING THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT

ENGINEERS, TECHNICIANS, GRADUATES
Based at Peterborough, Manby and Ipswich

Coastal and tidal defences are vital in our region where over one quarter of the area is below flood risk level. Our capital programme is currently £35 million per year and includes bank construction, beach nourishment, estuary barriers, groyne systems and a variety of coastal and river engineering work.

To reinforce our current team of professional civil engineers we are looking for people with good engineering skills, drive and enthusiasm. You will have the opportunity to acquire new skills and develop your career, handling interesting and varied work on appraisal design and project management. You will supervise consultants and follow projects through from initial appraisal to completion.

We are also seeking a coastal engineer/scientist/geographer to promote essential work on a sea defence management strategy.

In addition to the opportunity of joining a new organisation dedicated to improving the environment and safeguarding life, we offer good salaries, an index-linked contributory pension and a generous relocation package.

Want to find out more? Telephone Mike Child in Peterborough (0733) 371811 ext 4407 for an informal chat. Application forms and job descriptions are available from the Personnel Manager and should be returned not later than 20 April 1990 to the National Rivers Authority, Anglian Region, Kingsfisher House, Goldway Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 0ZR.

£12,700 - £21,600

PRIFYSGOL CYMRU



UNIVERSITY OF WALES

DEPUTY PRO-CHANCELLOR

The University will shortly be making an appointment to this new post for which Privy Council approval has been sought. A Committee under the Chairmanship of the Pro-Chancellor, The Rt. Hon. Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, has been established to advise the Council on the appointment which is a result of recommendations by the Working Group on Powers and Functions of the University of Wales chaired by Sir Goronwy Daniel.

The University regards this as a post of major importance which will demand a substantial part of the appointee's time. Its importance will be reflected by the remuneration and benefits which are subject to negotiation. The post is expected to appeal to persons with a record of achievement in industrial, business, governmental, academic or other work. The initial part-time appointment is expected to be for a period of not less than five years.

The Deputy Pro-Chancellor will be concerned with the co-ordination of the academic and institutional plans of the University and of the six constituent Colleges and will chair the newly established Joint Planning and Resources Committee which, in addition to the above responsibilities, will be required to prepare strategic plans for the whole University and monitor progress in the implementation of agreed policies.

The Committee invites applications or enquiries from persons wishing to be considered for the post, as well as suggestions as to possible candidates. Letters marked "Personal" should be addressed to The Rt. Hon. Lord Cledwyn, Pro-Chancellor of the University, c/o University Registrar, University of Wales Registry, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 3NS (from whom further particulars are available) and if possible should arrive not later than 30 April.

LEGAL

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We have recently restructured our Legal Section to ensure that we can continue to provide the top quality legal action and advice which is required in the local government environment of the 1990s. Our Solicitors have been organised in two teams. One covers Education, Social Services and Housing and Environmental Health. The other deals with mainly Planning, Highways, Compulsory Competitive Tendering and Policy matters. We now need to recruit two Senior Solicitors (one for each team) to complement the existing expertise available within the teams. What we are looking for is demonstrable quality as a lawyer. Although local government experience is likely to be advantageous, applications are also welcomed from those with private practice experience who wish to develop a career in the public service. The commensurate salary and salary band will be matched to the particular experience and abilities of the successful candidates. An individually tailored relocation incentive package will also be available. This is only a brief indication of the rewarding career move which these opportunities provide. If you would appreciate an informal discussion to find out more please telephone Mark Winstanley, our Borough Solicitor and Secretary, on 051-443-3570.



Closing date: 15th April 1990.
Open to both male and female applicants.
Conversing will disqualify.

Application forms and job descriptions are available from the Head of Personnel Services, Municipal Buildings, Huyton, Merseyside, L36 9UX. Tel: 051-443 3538 (24 Hrs). Please quote reference number.



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Director of Services

Salary negotiable in the range of £14,000 to £22,500

The Trust is a leading wildlife charity researching into birds and their habitats through its membership network and with a particular focus on conservation problems.

The Director of Services is responsible for financial and administrative matters as a member of the senior management team.

Further details are available from the Administrator, BTO, Beech Grove, Station Road, Tring, Herts. HP23 5NR. (Phone 0442 823461).

Closing date for applications is 20 April 1990. Interviews will be held on 27 April 1990.

Director of Personnel

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A complete information pack can be obtained by contacting Lisa Booth, Consultant, At Austin Knight Selection, 20 Soho Square, London W1A 1DS. Telephone 01-439 5782 (01-494 1093 evenings/weekends). Please quote reference 172/LB/90.

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For further information contact Ginny Cooper on 01-353-5606 (day) or 01-280 5430 (evenings and weekends), or write to BLT at the address below.

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Salary: £20,000 per annum.

For further information and job description, contact: Val Roberts, Health Unlimited, 3 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NT. Tel: 01-928 8185.

Closing date for applications: May 4, 1990. Shortlisted notification by May 11. Interviews week beginning May 21.

Landscape Architect

COUNTRYSIDE TEAM
Up to £15,881 p.a.

West Sussex is a predominantly rural county with three Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and a wealth of recreational facilities. The County Council runs a variety of grant schemes and is currently involved in a major landscape restoration programme. The postholder will assist the Senior Landscape Architect in the provision of specialist advice on all aspects of tree planting, conservation and landscaping and undertake the design and implementation of all required landscaping and recreation schemes. The post is suitable for a qualified landscape architect. A good background in rural conservation work and contract management would be an advantage. A full driving licence is essential.

For an informal discussion, please call the Countryside Team Leader, Richard Donihorn, on 0243 777420. An application form and written specifications are available from Beverley Smith, County Planning Department, County Hall, Tower Street, Chichester, West Sussex. PO19 1RL. Tel: 0243 777609. Closing date: 16th April.

west-sussex

GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL HIGHER ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

£23,554 - £27,751 per annum

The General Medical Council is the regulatory body for the medical profession. Applications are invited for the above post, in the Conduct and Health Division, to be head of the Health Section and Secretary of the Health Committee, dealing with cases of unfitness to practise medicine. Candidates should be graduates with a minimum of six years' relevant experience in public administration. The ability to communicate well, both orally and in writing, is essential. Experience of servicing committees would be an advantage.

For further information please contact:

Personnel Division
General Medical Council
44 Euston Street, London W1N 6AE
Tel: 01 580 7642 (Ext. 2135)

Closing date for completed applications: 6th April 1990.

Enquiry Officer

Up to £14,874 pa (inc.)

We are seeking an Enquiry Officer within the Rating Section of the Chamberlain's Department. The duties involve the inspection of empty and altered premises within the prestigious 'squad' unit. Previous rating experience is necessary and preference will be given to applicants studying for the examinations of the Institute of Revenue, Rating and Valuation. In addition, applicants will be expected to demonstrate an energetic and flexible approach.

The Rating Section's offices are located in Gresham Street, close to Guildhall and within easy access of a number of central London rail termini and tube stations.

Interest free loans for the purchase of annual BR/LRT season tickets and a comprehensive relocation package may be available in approved cases. Subsidised luncheon facilities are provided at Guildhall.

Details of the post can be discussed with Tom Mearns on 01-260 1337 or Carla Heath on 01-260 1387.

Application forms are available from: The Administration Officer, Chamberlain of London, P.O. Box 270, Guildhall, London, EC2P 2EJ. Telephone: 01 260 1373.

Closing Date: 15th April 1990.



CITY OF LONDON

University of Cambridge

UNIVERSITY LECTURER OR ASSISTANT LECTURER IN THE FACULTY OF LAW

University Lecturer or University Assistant Lecturer in the Faculty of Law to take up appointment on 1 October 1990, or as agreed. Preference to candidates whose primary interest is in Land Law, Equity and/or Family Law.

The appointment will be for three years, with the possibility of reappointment for a University Lecturer, to retiring age and a University Assistant Lecturer for two years. The salary scale for a University Lecturer is £14,169 to £21,852 p.a. and for a University Assistant Lecturer, £11,088 to £15,372 p.a.

Further information from the Secretary of the Appointments Committee for the Faculty of Law, Old Synod Building, Mill Lane, Cambridge CB2 1RX, to whom applications, a C.V. and the names of two referees should be sent by 30 April 1990.

The University follows an equal opportunity policy.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON

DIRECTOR OF ESTATES AND BUILDINGS

Applications are invited for the post of Director of Estates and Buildings. Salary negotiable but not less than £20,000 p.a. Applicants must have an appropriate professional qualification within the architectural, building, surveying or engineering fields. A university degree may be advantageous. Further particulars are available from the Staff Selection Section, The University of Southampton, SO9 5NH (Tel: 0703 595533), to whom applications (3 copies) should be sent by 14 May 1990. The University promotes an equal opportunity policy.

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GOLF

Tradition provides Nicklaus with a Masters appetite

From Patricia Davies, Phoenix

IDEALLY, Jack Nicklaus would like to celebrate winning the Tradition last Sunday, his first senior victory, by winning the Masters next Sunday, for the seventh time. That would appeal to his sense of symmetry and convince him that, just because he had reached the age of 50 and was being inundated with forms that would allow him discounted green fees at various resorts, it did not mean that he could not win tournaments that mattered.

In the meantime, he was more than happy to reflect contentedly on his first win for four years and his ability to remember how to cope with being in contention. Do not be fooled. He was serious when he said he was not sure how he would react, going into the final round as the leader. Old golden bears do not have to be taught new tricks, however.

Sills wins after play-off

WOODLANDS, Texas (Reuters) — Tony Sills sank an 18-inch putt on the first play-off hole to defeat Gil Morgan and win the Woodlands Open on Sunday. Sills' par putt, worth \$180,000 (£110,000), gave him his first win on the tour since joining the circuit in 1982. Sills, aged 34, fired a final-round 65 for a three-round total

of 204 after the tournament was shortened to 54 holes due to rain on Thursday and Friday. Eight players, including Severiano Ballesteros and Ian Woosnam, finished one behind Sills on 205, although Ballesteros had an opportunity to tie for the lead and go into a play-off, but saw his 20-foot birdie attempt on the 18th green fall inches short.

Ogle is no flash in the pan

From John Hennessy, Montpellier

COMPARISONS with Greg Norman are inevitable when considering the qualities of Brett Ogle, another Australian star risen in the European golf firmament as a result of his victory by three strokes in the AGF Open at La Grande Motte, a few miles to the east from where along the Mediterranean shore. Like Norman, Ogle is tall (6ft 2in), a prodigiously long hitter, self-confident and engagingly extrovert. He is certainly, too, according to majority opinion, to be much more than a one-tournament wonder, as so many other winners this last season or two are destined to be. To start with this was not, strictly speaking, his first win in Europe. Last year, he won the Equity & Law Challenge, a birdie points contest at Royal Mid-Surrey, which brought him

in £25,000. Seven times he was in the top 10 in 72-hole strokeplay tournaments, and he amassed £130,000 in prize money, excluding that Equity & Law windfall.

Back home for the winter, he won the Queensland Open, was third in the Australian Open and second in a tournament in Perth. But he had already shown his exceptional promise at home. He was top amateur in the Australian Open of 1985 at the age of 21. Turning professional in 1986, he won tournaments in Tahiti and Fiji before acquiring the Tasmanian Open title.

Eighteenth place at the PGA school in 1987 opened the way to three top-10 finishes on the 1988 European Tour. Last year, he soared to 27th in the Volvo Order of Merit.

It is a story, then, of steady progress up the ladder, if not quite the instant Norman conquest of his illustrious compatriot. In 1977, Peter Thomson, who knows a bit about the game, enticed people out of the Blairgowrie clubhouse to see this new Australian phenomenon who would become, he declared, "the best striker of a golf ball the world has ever seen."

It was Norman's first tournament in Europe, the Martini, and he won it at the age of 22, only five years after picking up a golf club.

That is the kind of milestone we are liable to hang round Ogle's neck unless we restrain our enthusiasm for an admittedly exciting new prospect and allow him to develop in his own good, good-natured time.

Snooker's leading two pot £100,000

NICK GOLDFINGER



Snooker's leading two pot £100,000 (left) and Steve Davis shoulder the £100,000 burden of the three-match Rothmans Centenary Challenge which was unveiled yesterday.

Davis, the No. 1, and Hendry, the world No. 2, will play for £25,000 at Aylesbury on May 16 and at Aberdeen on September 23, and £50,000 at the Albert Hall on November 14.

The format will be similar to golf's skins tournaments. Each point will be worth £10, each break of more than 50 will bring in £250 and breaks of more than 100 will be rewarded with £1,000. The frame winner will collect a £1,000 bonus.

The organizers are hoping for an audience of 5,500 at the Albert Hall,

which would beat the world record of 3,100.

The announcement marked the end of the feud between the Matchroom team manager, Barry Hearn, and Rothmans. Hearn has dropped a legal action he brought against the tobacco company after Rothmans ended its sponsorship of the Matchroom League.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Injuries force Reilly to delay naming team

By Keith Macklin

INJURIES to several players in the Great Britain squad, including Eilley Hanley, the captain, have caused Malcolm Reilly, the coach, to delay the selection of the side to face France in the return British Coal international at Headingley on Saturday until this morning.

Reilly finds himself sharing the problems facing John Monie, the Wigan coach. The scrum half, aggravated groin injuries in the win at Wakefield on Sunday which enabled Wigan to keep a lead of two points in the race for the championship.

In addition, two other Wigan players are likely to be ruled out of Reilly's choice. Andy Platt, the forward, is a long-term

absentee through injury, and Joe Lyden is regarded as doubtful both for the international match and Wigan's vital championship game against Leeds at Central Park next Tuesday.

One man who may benefit is David Bishop, the Hull Kingston Rovers and former Pontypool half back, who must have an excellent chance of winning his first cap in rugby league after winning one for Wales in the union game.

Alex Murphy, the Leigh coach, said yesterday that he has made further inquiries about the availability of David Frisette, the three-quarter, and Daniel Divet, the second-row forward, who are both members of the French squad.

CYCLING

Kelly optimistic about returning to the top

SEAN Kelly, recovering in an

Eindhoven hospital yesterday from an operation after crashing in the Tour of Flanders on Sunday, was doing his sums to determine his chances of retaining the Perrier World Cup title (Peter Bryan writes).

The Irishman, whose broken right collarbone needed urgent and specialist surgery, fell with four others in the Belgian race, but expects to be released from hospital either tomorrow or Thursday.

He knows that he will be out of competition for a minimum of four weeks and will miss most of the remaining early season classics — Paris to Roubaix, Liège-Bastogne-Liège, Ghent to Wavendon, and the Amstel Gold race.

The enforced rest, which he will spend at his Irish home in Carrick-on-Suir, will prevent him earning points for the World Cup competition, but he clearly has not given up all hope of keeping the title.

He said yesterday: "There's a lot to do, but I haven't dismissed my chances yet."

Kelly will ride the Tours of Switzerland and France, after which there are another eight World Cup qualifying races, including the Wincanton Classic at Brighton on July 29.

Moreno Argentin, of Italy, who won in Flanders on Sunday, leads the series after two events with 43 points, followed by two other Italians, Gianni Bugno (34 points), and Maurizio Fondriest (32).

VOLLEYBALL

Hippolyte aims for long-term success

By Roddy Mackenzie

RALPH Hippolyte, the coach recently appointed to the Great Britain men's squad, now knows the extent of his workload to prepare for the future after watching the British Volleyball Federation championships at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow at the weekend.

Scotland were the surprise winners of the tournament, beating a much more experienced England team, 15-11, 15-12, 4-15, 15-7, in the final, and Nick Moody, the Scottish coach, deserves immense credit for the preparation of his squad.

Tommy Downes, his assistant coach, said: "We were mentally tougher than England. Our training programme was exceptionally tough on our players. But I thought Nick's coaching was exceptional."

Paul Carruthers, the powerful blitzer for Team Novasport, enhanced his chances of making Hippolyte's Great Britain training squad with his performance, as did Ian Grubb and James Orr, of St Ragsazzi.

Hippolyte, on a two-year contract, has been charged with laying the foundations of a team capable of qualifying for the 1996 Olympic Games. "Planning six years ahead, I'm looking at long-term prospects and players aged 25 or younger who will be peaking in six years' time. I'll obviously also consider some short-term prospects, but I'm mainly concerned with the long-term," he said.

This emphasis on youth will be aided if the European Volleyball Association (EVA) passes a motion next week to make it compulsory for men's national league sides to have junior teams by the 1991-92 season.

Hippolyte is likely to split his training squads into north and south sections in May before naming a squad of 18 for the Royal Bank Cup in Birmingham in the summer, when the Great Britain squad will play their first matches together in the illustrious company of Bulgaria and Brazil.

ENGLISH LEAGUE FINAL POSITIONS

Team	Points	Set Ratio	Points Ratio
Mino Mery	22	18	4.59
Speedwell Puzos	22	17	5.57
Reedley Liverpool	22	17	5.57
Pottery	22	14	5.55
Shells Moorlands	22	14	5.55
Star Aquila	22	13	5.45
Hilton Leeds	22	12	5.33
WGL Leeds	22	10	4.40
Time Out Speck	22	10	4.40
Dynamo London	22	8	2.75
British Poly	22	8	2.75
Women's First division			
British Knights	18	15	2.50
Stirling	18	15	2.50
Scot Leasing Sale	18	14	4.46
Hilton Leeds	18	12	4.46
Scorpions Southern	18	12	4.46
Astonville	18	11	3.33
Scot Leasing	18	11	3.33
WGL Leeds	18	10	2.75
MGL Wexham	18	10	2.75
Dynamo London	18	12	4.46
British Poly	18	12	4.46

* Denotes penalty points deducted

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

PROCUREMENT OFFICERS

£12k to £20k

GLOUCESTER, BRISTOL & KNUTSFORD

Nuclear Electric is responsible for all commercial nuclear power generation throughout England and Wales. Our mission is to produce electricity as economically as possible while retaining an overriding concern for safety and care for the environment. This means that our top priority is quality - in our plant, in our methods, and above all, in our people - in one of the most technologically advanced and demanding industries in Britain. Our Procurement Department is involved in the procurement and disposal of all plant, equipment, and services associated with the running of a successful company and is seeking to obtain a limited number of contracts administrators at the above locations.

Applications are invited for various levels of Contract Administrators within the overall range £12k to £20k. The successful candidates will be accountable to senior staff, but will have day to day responsibility for the commercial management of contracts associated with multi-million pound schemes. Practical hands-on experience in the application of conditions of contract, the commercial principles of good management from strategy to contract letting, claims, variations, extensions of time, and administration are essential. Applicants must demonstrate a strong commercial awareness, motivation and supervision of staff, respond to rapid changes in our business environment, implement innovative solutions, and have commercial experience of contracts for major projects. The benefits commensurate with employment with a forward looking organisation are offered together with substantial relocation assistance in appropriate circumstances. Application forms obtainable from the Personnel Department, Nuclear Electric, Barnett Way, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RS, telephone Gloucester (0452) 652335 (24 hours), should be returned as soon as possible to ensure their receipt well before April 12 1990. Please mark vacancy reference number GD/N/18/90/77. As an Equal Opportunity Employer, we welcome applications from men and women, including ethnic minorities and the disabled.



Nuclear Electric

Currently a division of the CEBG

Help Us To Make Gatwick Even Better ...

The Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee represents public and passenger interests, and gives advice on Airport matters to Gatwick Airport Limited, the subsidiary of BAA plc which runs the airport.

The Committee includes many of the different interests involved with the Airport: airlines, amenity groups, the tourist industry, communities, trades councils, travel agents and Local Authorities.

In addition, four regular users of Gatwick are appointed to the Passenger Services Sub Committee of the Consultative Committee, two of whom also serve on the main committee.

Both Committees meet quarterly at Gatwick on weekday afternoons, and discussions cover all aspects of passenger services and facilities at the airport.

If you are interested in making a contribution to the affairs of Gatwick through joining the Passenger Services Sub Committee, are a regular user of the Airport, aged between 30 and 60 and resident in London or South East England, we would like to hear from you. Members are appointed for a three year term, and must be prepared to attend a majority of the meetings. These positions are not salaried, but reasonable travelling expenses are paid.

Please send a brief C.V., an indication of how often you have used Gatwick during the past year and why you think you would be suitable to:

E.M. Holdsworth, Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee, County Hall, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1RQ, no later than 24 April 1990

BAA Gatwick

HEALTH VISITING in Greenwich

There's always variety
Health Visitor
RGN RHV Certificates Required

One of the nicest things about working in Greenwich is that life is never dull. How could it be when we have such a richly diverse community?

It is this diversity that makes the work of our Health Visitors so challenging and stimulating and gives them the opportunity to gain vast experience and skills.

We are currently looking for additional qualified health visitors to join our team, people who enjoy a challenge and variety and the opportunity to constantly improve their skills.

Don't worry if you are a little rusty we can provide update and in service training. If there are limits on your time our flexible approach to working means that we are looking to provide you with hours to suit you. There are short term contracts available to cover maternity leave, and we are also looking for health visitors to join our 'bank' scheme in Greenwich.

If you would like to discuss the opportunities in Greenwich further, please write to: Ms. Duffy, Acting Assistant Director of Nursing Services, Community on 01-858-5511 ext 4420.

For application form and job description contact Greenwich Health Authority Community Unit Personnel Dept on 01-858-5511 ext 4304/4305 or telephone our 24 hour answering service on 01-858-0361.

We welcome applications from all sections of the community

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You must have or expect to obtain by the summer of 1990 GCE/IGCSE passes in at least 5 subjects including 2 at 'A' level, or in 4 subjects including 3 at 'A' level. Subjects must include English Language and Mathematics: SCE, 'AS' level and equivalent or higher qualifications are also acceptable and graduates in any discipline are welcome to apply.

Vacancies exist throughout England and Wales and in Scotland. Starting salaries, depending on location range to £14,000 including London Weighting of up to £1750 where appropriate. Promotion can bring salaries of well over £20,000.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 20 April 1990) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: 7/968.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer.

مكتبة الأمل

SPORT

TUESDAY APRIL 3 1990

- RUGBY LEAGUE: HANLEY DOUBT FOR BRITAIN 39
- RUGBY UNION: HOME UNIONS HELP ROMANIA 40
- RACING: GRAND NATIONAL GAMBLE 41
- TENNIS: DAVIS CUP HOLDERS BEATEN 42
- BOWLS: HOME INTERNATIONALS UNDER WAY 43

Fraser's injury is a new blow to ill-fated England

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Barbados

ANGUS Fraser, the dependable stabilizer in England's most effective bowling attack for years, yesterday joined the injury list as this touring team confronted an untimely crisis.

During net practice, Fraser strained an intercostal muscle in his side, an injury familiar to seam bowlers and one which is notoriously reluctant to heal. He will miss today's final one-day international and is plainly unlikely to be fit in time for the critical fourth Test, which starts on Thursday.

Any time spent in the company of England's team manager, Micky Stewart, yesterday, was graphic evidence of the precarious way this tour is balanced. The last seven days have brought a constant queue of problems and Stewart's fraught, fractious mood told its own story of the predicament.

The tour changed course in the moment that Ezra Moseley broke Graham Gooch's hand last Wednesday. England, having scaled the tallest ladders, were one throw of the dice from glory in this series when they landed on the longest snake of all. They have not stopped descending yet, and although they retain a precious 1-0 lead, they are approaching the decisive final fortnight in a decimated state.

Publicly, Stewart attempts to play down the anxiety, issuing routine platitudes. His furrowed brow and abrupt manner give away his inner fears.

"A lot of injuries have come together," he conceded. "Fraser's side strain is the last thing we needed. He is a serious doubt for the Test and we would certainly not risk him in a one-day game."

Indeed, England are not about to take any risks today in pursuit of an utterly meaningless limited overs victory. The one-day series has already been lost and although

Today's teams

WEST INDIES (from): D L Haynes (capt), C G Greenidge, R B Richardson, C A Walcott, L Hooper, A L Logie, P J L Dujon, M D Marshall, E A Manly, E A E Baptiste, C E L Ambrose, C A Walsh.
ENGLAND (from): A J Lamb (capt), D M Smith, W Larkins, R A Smith, A J Stewart, D J Cresswell, R G Goss, P A J DeFreitas, C G Lewis, G G Smith, E E Hemmings.
Umpires: L Barber, D Archer.

Kensington Oval will be full, it is a game of low priority for England with more serious business about to resume. "We will try to win," said Stewart. "But certain decisions on selection will be qualified by having a Test two days later."

Fraser has very quickly become a constant factor in this team. In the two Tests so far he has taken 11 wickets at 14 runs apiece and, significantly, conceded only 2.2 runs per over. DeFreitas will presumably replace him on Thursday but it is not a swap which increases confidence in England's prospects.

This is the first disruption to the bowling attack but the batting is in turmoil. David Smith, Gooch's replacement, is likely to play today, but his preparation has caused yet more headaches for the management.

It had been hoped that Smith would be offered valuable match practice yesterday by Yorkshire, who are on tour. Yorkshire declined, reasoning that their own needs were more important than England's, an attitude which neatly summarizes why the best efforts of the Test and County Cricket Board's cricket committee are frequently rendered impotent by the counties.

England then sought to involve Smith with Hampshire, who have just arrived for their pre-season tour. Mark Nicholas, the Hampshire captain, was in the process of arranging for Smith to play against them, for the Wanderers Club, when he was rushed to hospital complaining of fever and shortage of breath.

Nicholas had flown here

from Zimbabwe, where he captained the England A team tour, and apparently had to call for oxygen on the flight out. He is being detained in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, where tests are being conducted for malaria.

David Gower is about to join the Hampshire tour, although this does not mean his England role is necessarily over. "Nothing has changed," he said yesterday. "I helped out in an emergency and I remain available to England for similar situations." Stewart confirmed: "David is still standing by in case our injury situation worsens."

This clarification of some extreme interpretations of Gower's position was appropriate, as Nasser Hussain is by no means fully recovered from his wrist injury. "He was very sore yesterday morning and we can only assess him day by day. He will carry on as long as the pain is bearable," Stewart said.

Alec Stewart, Bailey and Larkins are all thought to have recovered from finger and hand injuries and Larkins will today take over the Gooch role of sixth bowler. Chris Lewis is likely to come in for Fraser.

The West Indian attitude to today's match can be gauged by the fact that they have omitted Viv Richards and Ian Bishop to preserve their energies for the Test. Desmond Haynes will continue as captain and, having been criticized in the past week for gamesmanship and time-wasting in the Trinidad Test and then for killing any competitive element in England's match with Barbados, he may be under closer scrutiny than anyone in a game most players will be happy to survive unscathed.

Malone move

Steve Malone, the former Hampshire cricketer, has been signed by Wiltshire.

More cricket, page 42

Perth finish to Ashes tour

ENGLAND'S five-Test tour of Australia next winter has sensibly been scheduled to start and finish in the westerly extreme of Perth (Alan Lee writes). But such geographical logic, rare in modern tour planning, is now being compromised by a ludicrous scheme to extend the tour with a one-day tournament in New Zealand.

England are already scheduled to undertake a full tour of New Zealand the following winter, after the World Cup, and there can be no acceptable reason for further burdening

County Cricket Board is under pressure from New Zealand to take part in the very sort of spurious event which, year after year, they pledge to ignore.

England are already scheduled to undertake a full tour of New Zealand the following winter, after the World Cup, and there can be no acceptable reason for further burdening

their Test players with extra matches of so little purpose.

The leading England players will have been active for 12 months out of 13 when the Australasian tour ends, which does not sit comfortably with the widely supported move towards shorter tours.

Four of the five Tests against Australia are to be played after Christmas, with the World Series Cup also featuring New Zealand, largely between the first and second Tests.

ITINERARY: Oct 18: arrive in Perth; Oct 25: v Western Australia President's XI, Leno Hill; Oct 27-28: v Western Australia Country XI, Geraldton; Oct 29: v Western Australia, Perth (day-night); Nov 2: v Western Australia, Perth; Nov 7: v South Australia Country XI, to be announced; Nov 9-12: v South Australia, Adelaide; Nov 14: v Tasmania, Hobart; Nov 22-27: first Test, Brisbane; Nov 28: v Australian Cricket Academy, Adelaide; Dec 4: v Prime Minister's XI, Canberra; Dec 11: v Bradman XI, Bowral; Dec 20-22: v Victoria, Melbourne; Dec 28-30: second Test, Melbourne; 1991: Jan 4-6: third Test, Sydney; Jan 19-22: v Queensland, Brisbane; Jan 25-28: fourth Test, v Australia, Adelaide; Feb 1-6: fifth Test, Perth.

WORLD SERIES CUP: Nov 22: Australia v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 2: England v New Zealand, Adelaide; Dec 5: Australia v New Zealand, Adelaide; Dec 7: England v New Zealand, Perth (day-night); Dec 9: Australia v England, Perth; Dec 11: Australia v New Zealand, Melbourne (day-night); Dec 13: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 15: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 17: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 19: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 21: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 23: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 25: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 27: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 29: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Dec 31: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Jan 2: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Jan 4: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Jan 6: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); Jan 8: England v New Zealand, Sydney (day-night); 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